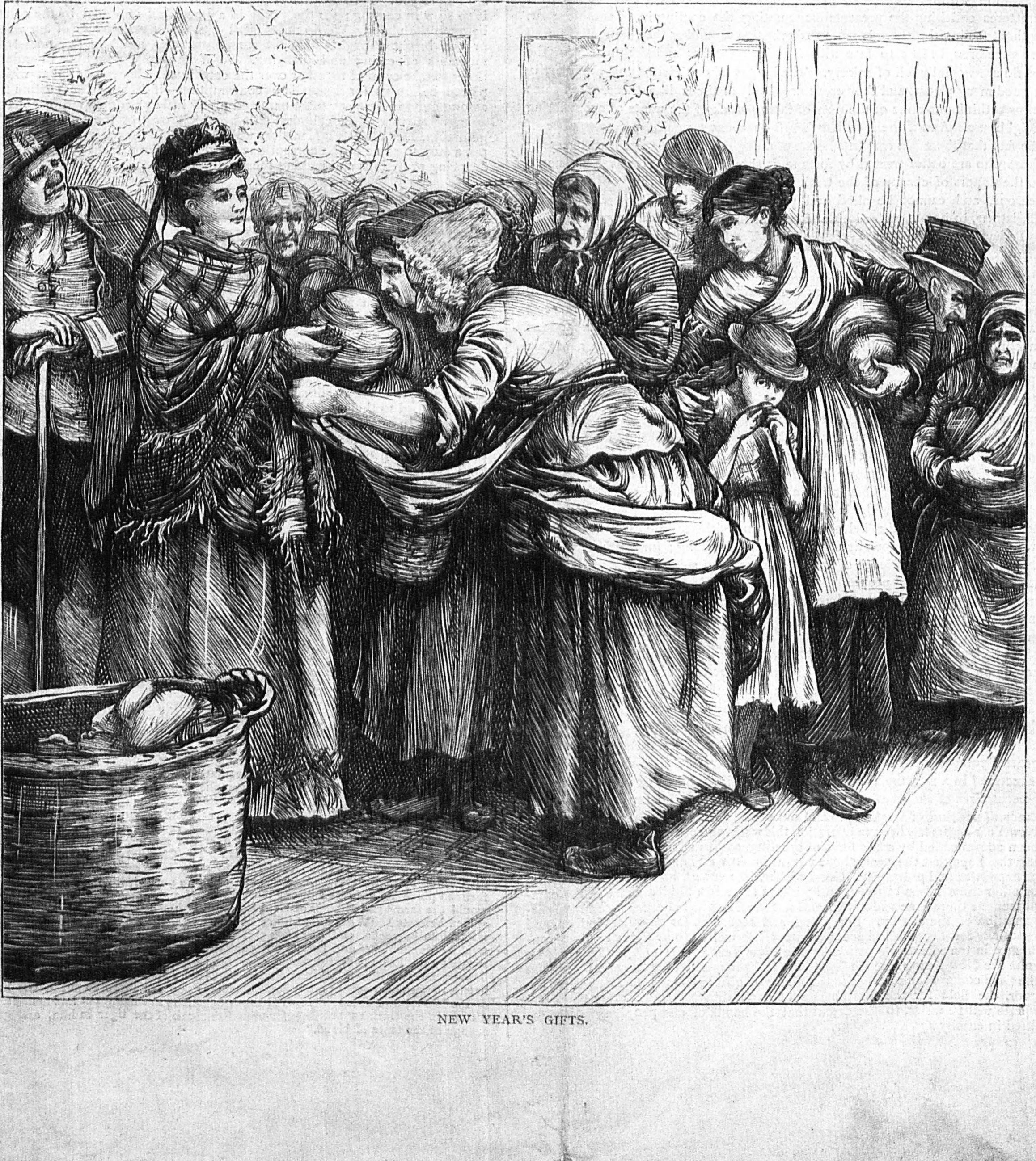
# Illustrated Midland News.

No. 71.—Vol. IV. [Registered as a Newspaper at the General Post Office.] SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1871. [Price Threepence.

## A STUDY IN FACES.

It is neither character, nor breeding, nor culture, that enables us to distinguish between the faces on this page: it is poverty. Nothing else speaks so plainly in the features of man or woman. Vice often tells its own tale, but not always; want never fails. In "Vanity Fair' Mr. Thackeray places side by side two pen-and-ink sketches—those of Selby the wealthy merchant and Selby the broken-down dabbler in unpromising financial schemes. To those who knew the same man in the first character and in the last, the spectacle of the fallen merchant in his adversity was grievous. It was not that he was poor, but that poverty possessed him and broke him down. Want possesses and breaks down and changes the man and the woman within every one of its victims. These poor creatures stepping forward for their doles on New Year's Day are honest, no doubt, in the same degree as a sample from the class next above them; but there is not in their faces, in their hearts, in their capacity of self-respect and resolution, the same spirit which would be there but for poverty. The problem of the past has been the relief of poverty; the problem of the future is to banish it.



NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

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CHARITY is very old. Time has taught us nothing in this. We organize more; we philosophise more about relief; we are more statistical, and systematic, and scientific; but not more generous than our ancestors. These New Year's gifts are mainly the legacies of those who never questioned the propriety of relieving the beggar. The doctrine that it is bad policy and unsound political economy to render a portion of our substance to those who solicit alms is wholly new-fangled. It is the production of our own days. It is the result of a profound faith in the Poor Laws. In old traditions, historic, legendary, and religious, the beggar was an important character. He held, no doubt, a better position than he deserved. He was a sort of angel in disguise, sent to put the charity of men to the test, and people stood in a certain awe of him, as of one who might make a bad report of them in some mysterious record of the deeds of mortals. The excellent persons who used to be so liberal to the poor were not very particular in some other matters which we deem necessary to the making of an amiable character and a worthy member of society. They did things which less charitable people in these days would be ashamed of; but whether they gave or refrained from giving they acknowledged the relief of poverty as one of the most peremptory of duties. To be a beggar even so lately as before the investigations into vagabond life of Mr. HENRY MAYHEW, was to occupy a rather lucrative position in our social system. Fortunes were made on the pavement. Fortunes were spent in riotous living at the cadger's rendezvous. An immense change has been wrought by the exposure of the organised systems of imposition which were so successful a generation ago, and yet we remain very charitable. Old as the virtue is, we have not, after all, much degenerated. We have ways of our own of giving, but we give enormously. These New Year's gifts, the presenting of which forms the subject of an engraving on our first page, are a splendid example; for though many of the foundations are ancient, the doles are largely supplemented by the munificence of the day. Who can be mixed up in any way with the dispensation without adding something to the store? Who can see the poor creatures soliciting the presents inaugurating the coming in of another year, without feeling that there is more real privation around us than we realized until we were brought face to face with it? The corners and dark places of the world are woefully full of misery. The hinges of our civilization are rusty in a good many places, and they creak dreadfully at times like these, when some of us bethink ourselves of the duty of taking stock of the wants of our suffering neighbours. And if the New Year's gift comes as a reminder to the poor of the fact that there is a certain amount of thought and sympathy for them among those who are better treated by fortune, it should be taken also as a memento to the donors of charity of the truth that poverty is not a thing of times and seasons, and cannot be aired and patronised on New Year's Day and at Christmas, to be put under lock and key for the remainder of the year.

Perhaps the best feature of the New Year's gifts is that they fall into the hands of many who are not frequently the recipients of charity. Those who will not beg, and would shrink from seeking alms in any of the ordinary channels of public or private benevolence, will look upon the New Year's gift as a privilege to which they are in a manner entitled. It is in some respects rather a recognition of the duty of people to help one another than a mode of meeting the direst necessities of those who live in poverty. It is a certain homage to a season. The first day of the year is celebrated in this country as little, perhaps, as among any people of the Western World. In the United States on one side of us, and in France on the other, it has been the custom to make very much of the coming in of January. It is a time of special and peculiar hospitality in the great cities of the Union, while in Paris it is a season of presents, the gages of friendship and good feeling. So universal among all classes in the capital of France is this particular mode of celebrating the day, that we have no doubt there were thousands and hundreds of thousands of gifts passing from hand to hand last Sunday in the beleaguered city, notwithstanding the awful position which the unhappy population have occupied so long; for neither loss, nor calamity, nor the knowledge of inevitable doom, can subjugate the spirit of that strange and wonderful people. No one on this side of the Channel kept the anniversary of the advent of the year, or the incoming of 1871, without thinking of his neighbours hemmed in by the terrible Germans, and the people of provincial France suffering the horrors of invasion aggravated by the severity of an inclement season; and those who are familiar with the habit of the French people on New Year's Day will trace our own custom of special giving to the same source. The difference is only in form. French presents are sent to friends and kin and acquaintances; ours are bestowed upon the needy; and there is just a little of the French feeling preserved in the manner and the spirit of the distribution of our gifts. At ordinary seasons charity stands on its own ground purely; on New Year's Day it is something of a good-will offering, and is received in a measure as a compliment, even though it passes between the representatives of classes whose lives in society are absolutely separate. In thousands of parishes of England, in and out of the metropolis, a regular system of New Year's gifts has been in operation this week, and everywhere the present has been accompanied by some form of greeting, and an acknowledgment betokening the hope that the year whose advent is thus commemorated will be a year of happiness and prosperity. Good wishes, like curses, no doubt, in some form or other come home to roost, and perhaps there is a hidden virtue in the compliment as there is an undoubted and not at all concealed excellence in the dispensation of the charity. For givers and receivers, for all others indeed, and especially for those who have permitted themselves to be taken into our confidence in ten minutes' gossip over the New Year's gifts of Old England, we trust the New Year has much happiness and prosperity in store, and that when the time comes round again for the giving of gifts to friends, to kin, and to the poor, the field for the interchange of good things, good words, and good wishes will be wider, to the extent that the hands of one people shall not be lifted in enmity against another.

## TABLE TALK.

THERE is a rather dangerous character at large, who knows everything. It is necessary to beware of him The knowledge of all the machinery of life and business, which comes so hard and by such costly experience to many of us, he has acquired at little expense or trouble. He is acquainted with all the minute differences between things which are confusedly mixed up in your own mind. He can tell you where to go, and how to arrive at your destination, and what to do when you get there. You had thought that the conflict in which we are all engaged in this country, wherein a few succeed and a great many fail, was one demanding consummate tact and attention, well-grounded knowledge, and substantial natural qualities at the bottom; but the well-informed gentleman of whom we are speaking leads you to reconsider the position. To him the journey, or the enterprise, is a matter of mere routine. All you need is to know the "ropes." It would be a fine thing for you if you could take his counsel; but if you do you will surely come to grief, and he will be able to prove to demonstration that the fault was your own. You missed a "rope," and if it was one he did not mention, then it was one you ought to have looked for as a matter of course. There are so many ropes which are matters of course, and you discover after a time that there is no royal road to a knowledge of them. You find, indeed, that the ropes alone will not enable you to ring a peal. There is something in campanology besides strings. We succeed or fail by virtue of the talents wherewith we are gifted, or the want of them. When you have carried out to the last item the directions of the experienced mentor whom you met by the wayside, and have learned there was something wanting, it may occur to you to inquire into the position and antecedents of your mentor, and then you will discover that he has never done anything particular for himself. He has not utilized that complete knowledge of the "ropes" in which he would have you place such unquestioning faith. He is like the fortune-tellers, the oracles and the witches who could put their disciples in possession of the secret of happiness and wealth, but lived in hardly disguised misery and poverty themselves.

AN uncomfortable topic of Table Talk is that which arises upon the wholesomeness and genuineness of the food we are eating; indeed, it would be a breach of good breeding to start the slightest hint of a doubt while the dishes are before you. Perhaps that is why the mischief continues, and the redress is so slow in coming; for the world is a good deal governed by the converse between the plates. We do not easily forget either the remarks of our *vis-a-vis* or the bright thoughts that flit across our own mind in the undistracted moments of eating and drinking. So if it were a possible and endurable thing to take counsel together over the constituent elements of that which is placed before us for immediate consumption—if it were the custom to set among our wine-glasses some neat and pretty little patent analysing apparatus, after the manner of the chemical stile by which we test the genuineness of a gold coin, Her Majesty's Ministers would soon find themselves called upon to put a stop to some of the corruptions incident to the present system of manufacturing provisions and making them ready for the table.

CORRESPONDING with our faith in rules is our trust in exceptions. It is the rule that we ride by railway without an accident, and naturally we travel about the country very much as if accidents did not happen; though a desperate encounter of a couple of trains moving on the same line is almost as frequent now as a battle in France. On the other hand, it is an exception in our great cities to get certain articles of ordinary diet fit to eat, and we all know it; yet we believe that which is served up to ourselves is innocuous, if not excellent. This fallacy, however, mischievous as it is, does not tend so much to the perpetuation of imposition as the growing up of an artificial taste for spurious articles. Some years ago, when the milk supplied to the population of New York was the produce of cows that were fed upon the lees of the brewery and gin distillery till they died in a state of horrible decay, the people acquired a preference for the town milk, and would not believe in the pure article if it were supplied to them. Yet the abominable stuff was poisoning them and their children. In our metropolis, among some classes, a similar feeling exists with regard to London milk. That which makes the article different from country milk is certainly pollution more or less deleterious, and in this the consumer gradually learns to discover an excellence, as the London gin-drinker likes best the sort which is most adulterated and pernicious. Thus we gather evils about us and hug them to us, as the beggar for warmth's sake refuses to part with his long accumulation of dirt.

Is it the mere influence of imagination, or has the sunshine of these early January days a hint in it of spring, such as is wholly wanting in the scarce rays with which we were favoured in the weeks of December before Christmas? It is difficult in these things to know where fancy leaves off and fact begins. There seems a certain doggedness in the sunlight of late autumn, like the work of a toiler whose day's labour is dragging on to a close. The difference between December and January is, if we may believe our sensations, as the difference between the falling and the rising of the tide. Sluggishly in the one case and with a certain sprightliness in the other does the moving water wash over the pebbles. Anyhow, here is the sunshine ready to grow stronger day by day. Having pretty nearly done with last week's festival, we begin to watch the dawn of bright seasons coming. The snowdrops and the violets are at hand.

THE *Times* correspondent with the German army at Orleans says:—"Here, as at Versailles, a rather favourite topic of conversation is the invasion of England, with its probabilities of success and means of accomplishment. Let not Englishmen imagine that the minds of Prussian strategists are altogether taken up with the French or with warfare upon land. What will people think at home of no less gigantic an idea than a bridge of boats from Calais to Dover, or thereabouts; not, of course, as the means of a first landing, but to pass over the reinforcements to a small army landed first, and protected by field works? The Channel would thus be treated as a huge river; and it is considered that an army once across, could live uncommonly well by requisitions. Ammunition would be needed, it is true: but there is no fortified place to stop the direct march upon London—exactly four days. How would the farms and villages of Kent look if full of huge, rough-speaking warriors in spiked helmets? What about filling every room with soldiers or wounded, turning villas into barracks, and churches into stables? How the Deutschers would swallow English beef and beer, giving acknowledgments for the good things, to be repaid by the English Government, after the war. How many field-guns could be brought against them? Prince Frederick Charles had more than 400 during the battle of Orleans. How many breechloader rifles are there to put in the hands of the Militia and Volunteers? All these questions are being put and answered by officers in the German armies; for man has much of the tiger in him, and grows savage at the taste of blood."

## NOTES ON BOOKS.

If Mr. Hain Friswell was seeking for notoriety through "Men of Letters Honestly Criticised," he is in a fair way to obtain all he could desire in that direction. Mr. George Augustus Sala is, we hear, about to put the author's pocket to the test as well as his honesty, In short, Mr. Friswell is to answer for his remarks upon Sala in an action for libel. It is to be hoped these two gentlemen will settle their differences out of court. Mr. Friswell ought to make the *amende honorable.* He has written very unjustifiably about Mr. Sala, and his work altogether is in the worst possible taste. Here and there he is truthful; here and there he is just; now and then his criticism is bright, clever, and well balanced; but on the whole Mr. Friswell's book is a weak, ill-digested conglomeration of pretentious scraps. This is unpardonable in an author who has shown himself capable of really good work.

"A Voyage Round the World," by the Marquis de Beauvoir, published by John Murray, is one of the most notable books of the season. The author completed his twentieth year a week before setting sail for Australia two years ago. He now asks for indulgence on account of his youth. Such an apology generally prefaces a book that is not worth reading. The work of the young Marquis de Beauvoir is an exception to the rule. Carefully written, full of fresh and original thought, "A Voyage Round the World" is a welcome addition to the literature of travel. The description of Australia is admirably done, and there is much deserving of study in the author's treatment of the Chinese question, which is becoming of first-rate importance in the Eastern seas. The Chinaman is a greedy money grubber. He works with insect-like tenacity, and when he has got together his hoard of riches, he generally goes home to his own country. This the Marquis objects to, and he therefore highly approves of the capitation-tax now levied upon all Chinese on their first landing. Regarding, however, those members of the despised race who remain and settle down into established colonists, the author makes some curious reflections. "In Australia, thanks to a fine climate and a healthy mode of life, the Anglo-Saxon race develops in its finest form on a virgin soil. Here you have a nation starting up, and looking carefully to its future; but the quickly-earned wealth of the Chinese digger contrasts too sharply with the poverty of the Irish immigrant on her first landing. Think of all these little yellow men, with their slits of eyes, their flat noses, and skin like a shark's, becoming the happy husbands of the fair daughters of Erin, and the joyful fathers of a young Australia, a half-caste, bastard race, decayed and degraded, speaking a semi-Asiatic language, with pagoda-churches and steam-junks; think of these when there comes a question of voting, of constructing machinery, of keeping up the impulse of civilization given by the first pioneers of the country!"

An Annual giving a series of retrospective articles on the leading subjects of the past year is a very happy idea. It has been left to Sylvanus Urban of lasting fame to supply a want of this kind long felt. *The Gentleman's Annual* just issued, will, we trust, be the founder of a long line of historical volumes. It was not to be expected that the first New Year's supplement to the *Gentleman's* would be perfect. We are promised a nearer approach to a complete work next year. Meanwhile we are thankful for the present Annual. It contains nearly two hundred pages of well digested essays, summarising and criticising the varied history of British industry, art, literature, and science during the year; opening with "The Story of the War," which embraces rather the political than the military history of the campaign. Looking at results and glancing at the future the writer points out that the war has deposed a Pope and completed the unity of Italy. It has given to Spain a King of the House of Savoy. It has converted North and South Germany into an empire, and placed an imperial crown on the head of a Hohenzollern. It has extinguished, perhaps for a time only, perhaps for ever, the dynasty of the Bonapartes, and revived Republicanism—of the unique sort distinguished as French Republicanism—in Europe. It has re-opened the Eastern Question, freshened up old theories of the dominion of race, and renewed among civilised nations the practice of seizing territory as the prize of successful warfare. How it will affect the future of Austria, whose frontier yet limits the length and breadth of the new German Empire, and what influence it will have on North-Western France, the debateable land of Gauls and Teutons, it is impossible now to foretell. The War of 1870 is the end of much and beginning of much more in Europe. It is a fresh starting-point in history. Unfortunatety there seems every reason to fear that it is only the inauguration of other wars, in which England will be compelled to take an important part. Our sporting and agricultural readers will find very excellent notes on the past year in "Racing Reminiscences," "Agriculture," and "Our Commercial Progress." The editor has selected his various contributors with great judgment. Each article is clearly written, with an intimate knowledge of the subject treated. The *Gentleman's Annual* is a substantial and valuable work. It stands out with a defined and useful purpose among the ephemeral publications of the season, and cannot fail to have a large sale among gentlemen, both in town and country.

From Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton we have received "Incidents in the Life of Edward Wright," by Edward Leach. It tells the story of a man who had been a criminal by profession, "but is now a Christian and an Evangelist." Indeed, we question whether Mr. Leach does not regard his hero as one entitled to a higher and more sublime designation than that of "Evangelist." From the greatest scoundrel that man can be, Mr. Wright, under a sudden inspiration of repentance, becomes sanctified, and grows in purity to such an extent, that he is now little less than angelic. The author does his biographical work with an apt and descriptive pen; his book is full of startling incidents. We question whether the reading of it will profit any one in the way Mr. Leach desires it should. Nevertheless, they may pass a very profitable hour in Edwin Wright's company, both as thief and Evangelist.

"Pictures of Cottage Life in the West of England," by Margaret E. Poole, is published this week by Messrs. Macmillan. The volume contains five bright, entertaining, and cleverly constructed tales of Somersetshire. Miss Poole sketches with a light hand; her cottages are as natural and truthful as her cottagers. "Betty Slater's Skeleton" is the best story we have read for many a day.

The Commissioners appointed to inquire into the allegations of ill-treatment made by the Fenian prisoners, have issued their report. They declared that, after a patient and minute investigation, there is no ground for the belief that the convicts were subjected to exceptionally severe treatment. On the contrary, there was evidence that from time to time the prison authorities had sanctioned certain relaxations of discipline in their favour. A recommendation is made, from which, however, Mr. Greenhow dissents, that a detached portion of some convict prison should be set apart for offenders of this class.

## PLAYS AND PLAYERS.

A characteristic correspondence has appeared in a New York paper, between Mr. Fechter and Mr. J. W. Wallack. "I have received the play and do not like the part of Don Salluste at all; I would rather not play it," says the first letter, which is from Mr. Wallack. "My dear Wallack," replies Fechter, "I sent you the part of Don Salluste to *study*, not to judge. I should as soon think of asking your permission to cast you as Joseph Surface as Don Salluste. I beg of you to reconsider your note and accept the part, or your services will be useless here, and your engagement at an end *this very week.* I consider Don Salluste the best part in the play, and would much rather act it than Ruy Blas. If you say so, we will alternate the parts." Mr. Wallack regarding this as an insult, refuses to hold any further correspondence with Fechter, and also repudiates his authority. "Mr. Cheney is the sole party to whom I am engaged, and to whom I shall look for a fulfilment of the business contract made." And thus this "very pretty quarrel" stands at present. Mr. Wallack still claims to be a member of the company; while his caustic correspondent refuses to let him appear.

Old Drury carries off the palm once more for Christmas pantomime. Assisted by Mr. Beverley (the artist is certainly entitled to be mentioned here before the author) Mr. E. L. Blanchard, Mr. Edward Stirling, and Mr. W. C. Levey, the enterprising proprietor might fairly expect to maintain the Christmas renown of the theatre. *Beauty and the Beast* is a splendid entertainment, strengthened by the Vokes family, and made charming by some very pretty music. In this latter respect, however, Covent Garden is peculiarly attractive. Mr. and Mrs. Aynsley Cook and Miss Julia Matthews are in the opening scenes. Miss Nelly Smith, who drew all Birmingham last year to the Prince of Wales' Theatre in that town, is the favourite of the children at Covent Garden. She makes a charming little princess, and gives great promise of acting power. Her friends must not let her become too stagey. She reminds us of what Madge Robertson was ten years ago. We hope she may develop into as graceful and refined an actress.

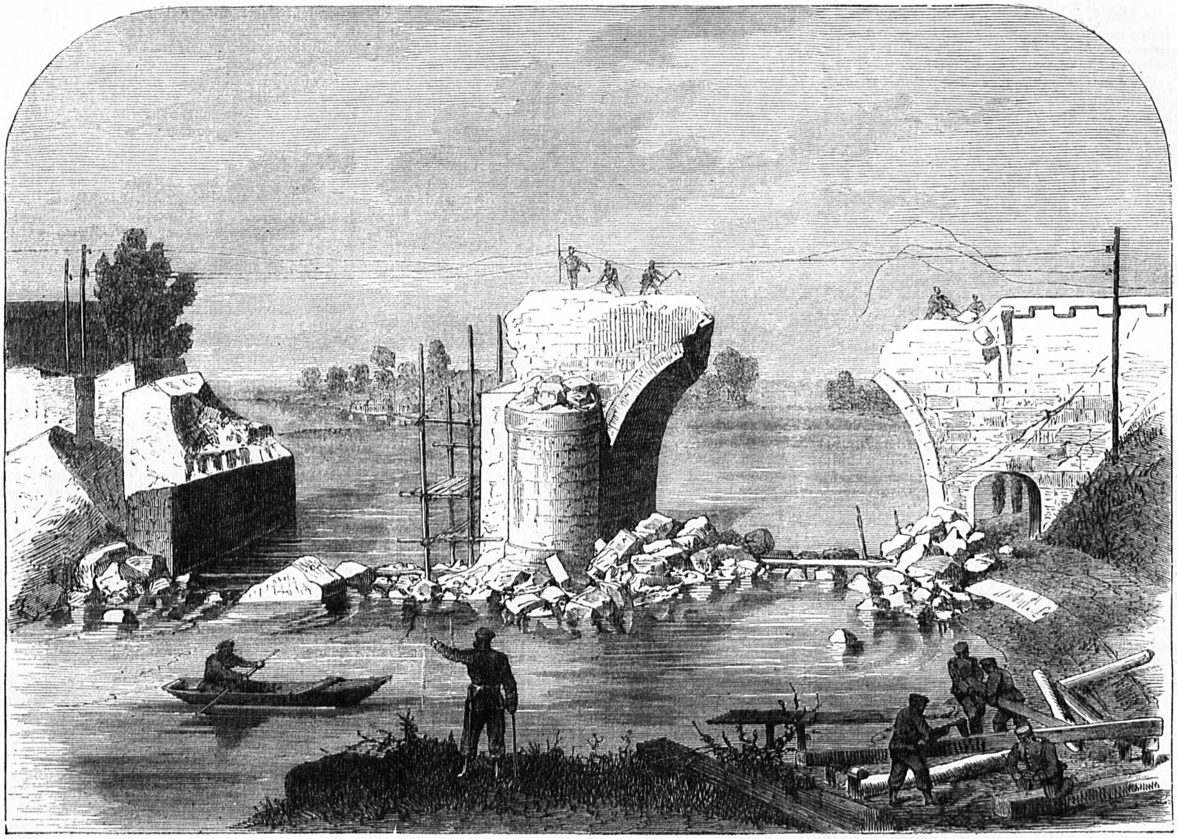
Two of the prettiest and most original productions of their kind which the past year has given us are *Ages Ago* and *The Palace of Truth.* They are both from the pen of Mr. W. S. Gilbert, whose ballads have helped to make *Jun* famous. *Ages Ago* is still being played at the Gallery of Illustration, and *The Palace of Truth* is the *pièce de resistance* at the Haymarket, where Miss Robertson has become so deserved a favourite. Miss Robertson matriculated in the dramatic art at Bath and Bristol. She is the sister of Mr. Tom Robertson, the successful dramatist. Once a year she plays at Lincoln, on the occasion of a Robertson benefit, her father having for many years been the respected lessee of that theatre.

At the Princess's there is an actor who years ago was a favourite at Bristol, and who justifies in London the estimation in which his talent was held by the provinces. We allude to Mr. Vollaire whose "Scrooge" in the *Christmas Carol* is a piece of thoughtful and artistic acting. Mr. Vollaire once made a hit in the provinces as "Falstaff." But the best provincial "Falstaff" is Mr. Chute, the lessee of the Clifton Theatre, who, by the way, commenced his dramatic career under Miss Robertson's father.

The Adelphi seems to be once more "in good feather," Messrs. Webster and Chatterton have done wisely in making Mr. Billington their stage manager. The programme includes a capital serio-comic drama, adapted from the French by Mr. Benjamin Webster, jun., and a sprightly burlesque. Some new names figure in the list of the company, and there are other indications of judicious reforms. We hope the next step will be in the direction of the abolition of gratuities to box-keepers, the sale of programmes, and other petty extortions and annoyances. The Gaiety and St. James's have set excellent examples in this way, for which the respective managers deserve every commendation. In the old days Mr. Webster led the van against worse tyrannies than that of the box-keeper and playbill vendor. There is no special grievance that we know of against the Adelphi, but we hope to see Mr. Webster still to the fore in playhouse progress; the management is most fortunate in its box-keepers and other subordinates. Our observation only affects a principle.

Resuming our notices of the season's entertainments in the Midlands, we learn from our correspondent at Nottingham that the Pantomime there is successful in every respect. *Robinson Crusoe* affords the artist every opportunity of showing his skill, and this has not been thrown away in the present instance on Mr. Wood and his assistants. The view of the Hull pier and the interior of the shipwrecked sailor's hut are fine examples of scene art and stage effect. *Robinson Crusoe* finds a good exponent in Lady Don, Miss Bertha Adams as Pretty Polly, Mr. Buchanan as Will Atkins, Miss Weston as Jack Frost, Mr. Clitherow as Daddy Pigtail, very creditably sustain their several parts. The Brothers Fritz, who have been engaged to represent Crusoe's household pets, are extremely diverting. The music incidental to the piece is capitally given by the band, under the direction of Mr. Leverton. The transformation scene is resplendent with all the colours of the rainbow—and more. A capital effect is produced by the chromatic hues thrown upon the scenery and figures by the apparatus of Mr. Kerr, of London. The harlequinade is made as funny as possible, with Mr. H. Collier for harlequin, Miss Caroline Adams for columbine, Mr. Joe Bland for clown, and Mr. J. W. Collier for pantaloon, and with the Brothers Fritz as sprites. We ought to mention that the pantomime is written by Mr. J. Strachan, and its only serious shortcoming is that at present it is much too long.

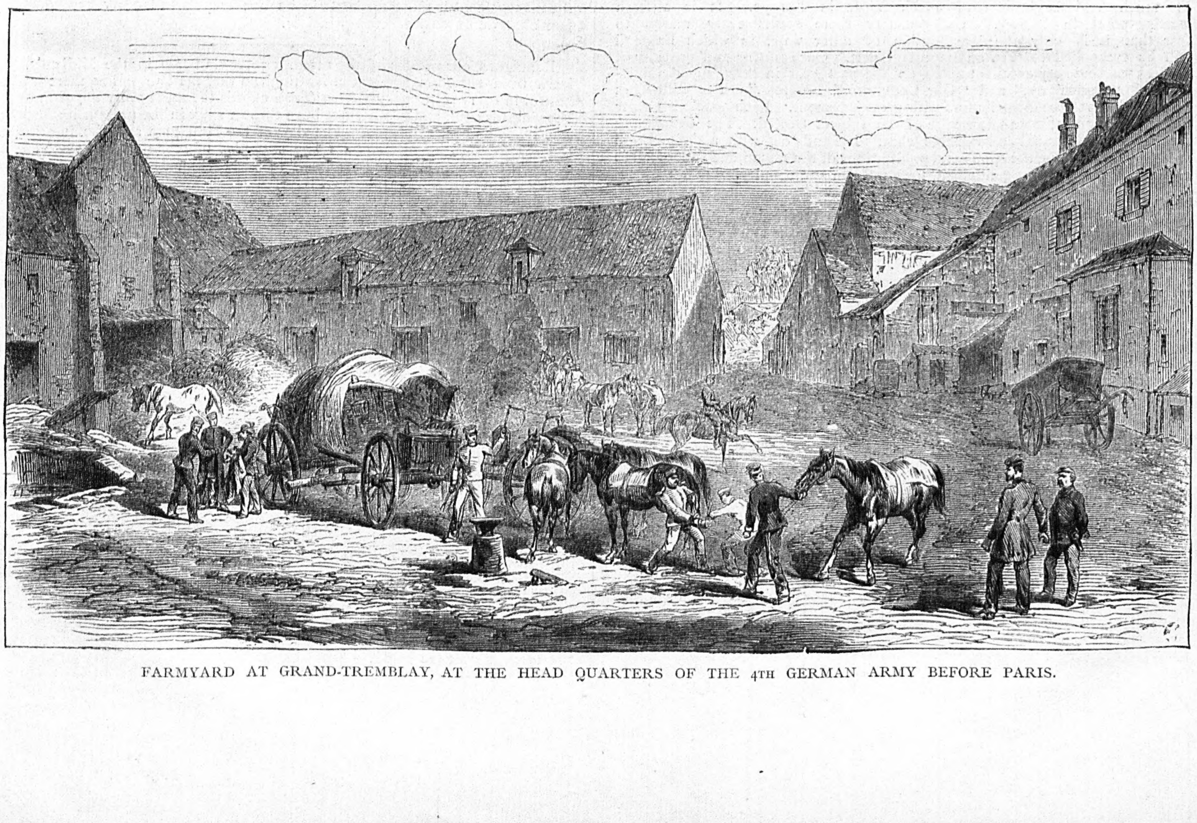
Mr. John Coleman, at the Leeds Theatre, has done all that a man of taste and enterprise can do to provide seasonable entertainment for his patrons; while Manchester and Liverpool are embarrassed with dramatic and musical riches. Liverpool has four pantomimes, and it may be said that they are all fairly successful. Manchester has three theatres, each with its pantomime, the Royal deserving especial notice for *Dick Whittington,* the old yet ever new story of the famous Lord Mayor. At the Prince's Theatre Mr. Calvert has had the literary assistance of Mr. Alfred Thompson, the author of *Columbus,* which had a successful run at the Gaiety. Mr. Calvert is the inventor of a new system of check, which is said to be perfect. When the tickets are taken at his doors the numbers are registered in the managerial room; so that at any moment it can be seen how much money is in the house. Another patent to supply this desideratum is extant. It is known as "Bebro's Register," a very ingenious and practical contrivance, which deserves the attention of Impresarios all over the world.



BROKEN RAILWAY BRIDGE NEAR TRILPORT, BEFORE MEUX, ON THE MARNE.

## AT GRAND-TREMBLAY.

THE sketch below ought to be that of a farmyard within a short distance of Paris; it is, in fact, that of a Saxon barracks. There is a wide belt of fruitful land outside the French capital, which has for the last four or five months been diverted from all useful, humane, and prosperity-making purposes, and devoted to those of mischief and murder. This farmyard of Grand-Tremblay has the misfortune to be placed within the limits of that belt, or rather it had some weeks ago; for a worse fate has since befallen it. To-day the farmyard and the village are a scene of desolation. Grand-Tremblay has been given over to fire, and exists no more as a village. The Saxons of the fourth German Army are represented in our picture in the act of preparing to desert the farm-yard. They have found safer quarters elsewhere, and they are shoeing and saddling their horses for the departure. The art of adapting all sorts of places to military purposes is one in which the Germans, and especially the Prussians, are proficient. In Prussia, every man you meet, and everything you see, is more or less military. The whole of King William's territory is, in ordinary times, like a huge barracks. It is not an agreeable aspect for life to take, but so long as it was confined to that kingdom nobody outside had any reason to complain. Unfortunately the excuse has been given which has enabled the army of that country to convert the beautiful land of France, not merely into a barracks, but into a human shambles. A dreadful legacy of bitterness is being set down for the future in France. Every Frenchman and Frenchwoman, and every child in the country, will hate the sight and memory and name of a German soldier with an intensity of hate that will be kept alive for centuries. And what can France's neighbours and friends say to soften the enmity? Nothing. The world looks on gloomily. All spectators feel that the victor is pushing his advantage to an extent that can only be accounted for by malignity or greed. Prussia is exacting its pound of flesh, and the sympathies of the nations are with the victim.



FARMYARD AT GRAND-TREMBLAY, AT THE HEAD QUARTERS OF THE 4TH GERMAN ARMY BEFORE PARIS.

## TRILPORT BRIDGE.

THERE are conventionalities in war as there are in civil society. The destruction of bridges is one of them. It may be important and it may be quite unimportant to place a slight obstruction in the way of the enemy's troops, so as to arrest their progress for a few hours, but in either case you deprive them of the ordinary means of passing from one side of a river to the other; not so much to effect any definite object, as because it is a rule of warfare. On this principle the French soldiery have knocked in pieces a large number of the most costly and ancient bridges in France. Trilport Bridge, the ruins of which are depicted in our engraving, is an instance. It was a strong old structure, built of white sandstone, and its destruction by the French did no greater service to the French cause and no greater injury to their enemy than that of giving the Germans a little more trouble.

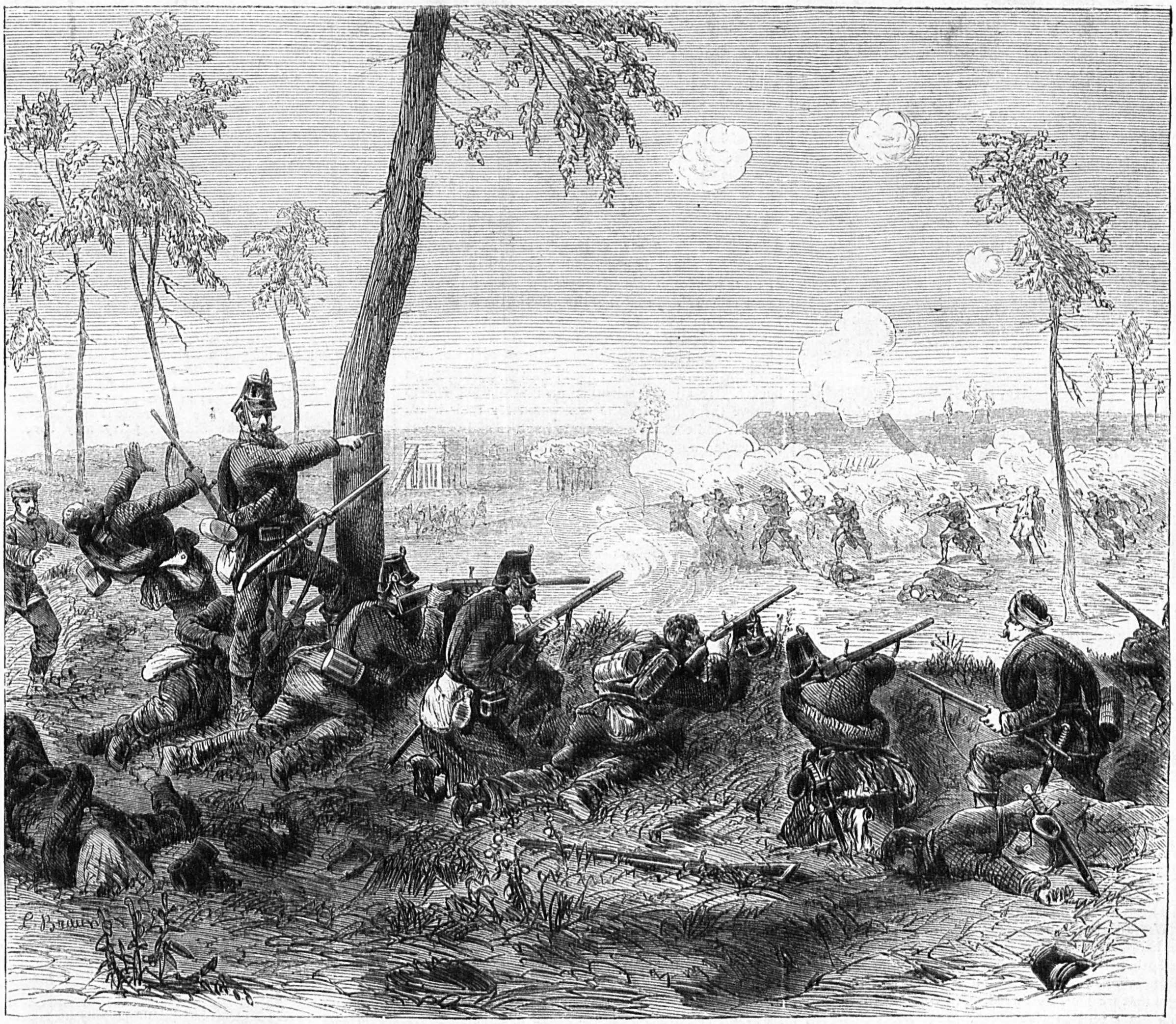
The river Marne is narrow at that point, and by the aid of the stones from the crowns of the broken arches, and a few planks and boats the German troops easily made their way across and proceeded with the invasion of France, arriving at Versailles for the investment of Paris hardly the later by reason of the mischief which had been done in anticipation of their arrival. The incident is an example of the essential difference between war and peace. In peace we produce, construct, and preserve; in war we destroy and devastate as it were by instinct, with or without a purpose, satisfied that we are acting on the right principle so long as we do as much harm as we can. Over north and north-western France there are many hundreds of monuments of this miserable mode of industry, the results of the last six months' work, and Trilport Bridge is one of them.

THE sentence of death passed upon Edward Greatly at the recent Manchester Assizes, for the murder of his wife, in Salford, has been commuted to penal servitude for life.

IT was stated on Tuesday that Mr. Redgrave, the Chief Inspector of Factories, has made a report upon his recent inspection of the manufacturing department of the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, and that the facts which were communicated to the Inspector, proving that violations of the Factory Act had taken place in this Government establishment previous to his visit, have found place in this report.

## THE FIGHT NEAR CHEVILLY.

THE battle scene on this page, engraved from a sketch by Herr Louis Braun, a German artist, represents the first engagement of any importance outside Paris after the investment. The troops arrived before Paris on the 15th of September. One day they were at Trilport Bridge, the subject of the last sketch, then they were at Meux, then at Versailles, and on the 19th the Metropolis of France was under siege. On the same day, General Vinoy's troops were attacked by the Germans on the heights of Sceaux, when the French were defeated, and lost seven guns. That was the only event of importance between the 19th and the 30th. A portion of the intervening time was occupied with fruitless negotiations for peace. On the 30th, General Vinoy made a sortie with nearly his whole corps, and a simultaneous movement was made on the south and south-west of the city. The conflict depicted in our engraving is that between the villages of Chevilly and Billejuif. The Germans engaged were the 2nd Company of Prussian Tirailleurs, belonging to the 6th Rifle Battalion. The battle began with a thunder of artillery from the Parisian forts at daybreak. The battlefield was almost identical with that of the 19th. The conflict, while it lasted, was well sustained on both sides, and it ended on the 30th, as on the 19th, with the complete repulse of General Vinoy's forces, who retreated within the fortifications of the capital. From that time the position of the investing army before Fort Bicetre was deemed secure. Our engraving shows the situation of Fort Bicetre, over by the village of Billejuif and the Prussian observatory.



Observatory. Village of Billejuif. Fort Bicetre.

FIGHT BETWEEN CHEVILLY AND BILLEJUIF, BEFORE PARIS, ON THE 30TH OF SEPTEMBER.

FASHIONS FOR JANUARY.—Since variety is charming, notably in ladies' attire, we make no apology for our usual notice of *Le Follet*, although we have coquetted with her rival. Very brilliant colours, either plain or mixed, so it is said, are worn for evening dress. Morning dresses are not very full in the skirt, and have flat plaits at the back of the waist; many of them are cut in one with the body as far as the seams under the arms, the back of the skirt cut separate, and plaited to the waist. When worn with a tunic, this is long and plain, pouffs and paniers being reserved entirely for more dressy occasions. Frills and flounces are not quite so universal as they were a few weeks ago, crossway bands and rouleaux being more suitable for thick fabrics. Velvet is very much worn as a garniture—either ribbon velvet or cut from the piece. Visiting and afternoon reception dresses are trimmed with fur, satin, fringes (either of chenille or silk), and feathers. For dinner and evening dress, lace of all kinds is greatly in fashion, headed by satin bands or feathers. Colours are trimmed with black, or shades of the same. Neutral tints are also trimmed. Grey and violet, or claret colour, are very fashionable mixtures. The cloth cloaks for this month are generally double-breasted. They are bound with velvet. The velvet casaques for visiting dress are profusely ornamented with lace, jet, and feathers. They are made with body and basque over looped-up tunic skirt. The gipsy bonnets are still very much worn. They fit so nicely to the head, without disarranging the coiffure, that they are likely to remain long in favour. Ball, dinner, and reception dresses are made excessively long and full in the skirt. The three front breadths are still worn gored to the figure, the remainder being in handsome plaits. The manteau de cour is elegantly worn; it is either open from the sides of the waist, or made with an apron-piece, rounded or square in front. Satin is very much worn for evening dress, either as a complete toilette or as a train over an under-skirt of thinner material. Lace tunics over satin or even velvet dresses are very elegantly worn. This season's opera cloaks and sorties de bal are very elegant; they are generally made with sleeves, though the Burnous is too convenient a shape ever to go out of fashion. Flowers are not used with quite so reckless a profusion on ball dresses as they were last winter, and dresses are none the less elegant for this moderation. A small quantity of crinoline is absolutely necessary to support the dresses of the day, with heavy materials to sustain them; with tulle ball dresses and such light fabrics it is also required. Gloves are no longer worn with such an exaggerated number of buttons—three or four at the wrist are considered sufficient.

A BOILER of eight horse-power, in the foundry of Mr. J M'Owen, George-street, Rochdale, exploded on Monday morning, and the shock was felt over a radius of a quarter of a mile. The boiler was used for supplying blast, and was fixed beneath the surface five or six feet. The explosion is supposed to have been caused by the freezing of the feed pipe. Four or five men were working in the foundry at the time, but fortunately escaped serious injury.

PRINCE DORIA PAMFILI has, says a telegram from Florence in the *Times*, accepted the Mayoralty of Rome.

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Contained in

THE GENTLEMAN'S ANNUAL.

THE NEW YEAR'S SUPPLEMENT TO THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE.

London: W. H. ALLEN and Co., and all Booksellers. [205

THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE for JANUARY contains contributions by D. Morier Evans, the Countess Von Bithmer, H. Sutherland Edwards, R. H. Horne, Author of "Orion," &c., &c. One Shilling Monthly.

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MERRY and WISE. Edited by "Old Merry." The arrangements for 1871 include numerous HANDSOME PRIZES every Month for the best Answers to Puzzles, besides two SPLENDID PRESENTS to Subscribers, details respecting which will be found in the January Number. Specimen Copy post free for four stamps.

*The Numbers of "Merry and Wise" are bound up at the end of the year, and form a superb Gift-book, under the title of "OLD MERRY'S ANNUAL," price 6s., of which the Athenæum (Dec. 24) speaks in the following terms:—*

"The articles in 'Old Merry's Annual' have appeared in monthly parts, but they are now bound up in cloth, with a beautifully illuminated cover. It is a gift for any good child in Christendom! 'Walter's Escape; or, the Capture of Breda,' a tale of the Netherlands, is excellent; 'Jessa's Surprises' is a very pleasant story; and there are good translations of two good tales by Madame Pressense. 'The Autobiography of a Drop of Water' is delightful; there is monthly chat on all sorts of subjects, useful and entertaining. The good things are as numerous as plums in a Christmas pudding, and there are few juvenile readers who will not find something to suit them in this volume."

London: HODDER and STOUGHTON, 27, Paternoster-row.

BOOSEY and CO.'S PIANETTES, 19 and 26 Guineas; also, PIANOFORTES, by great makers, which have been on hire, many of them nearly new, at greatly reduced prices.—24, Holles-street, London, W. [152

ARTIFICIAL TEETH. PAINLESS DENTISTRY.—Notice of Removal. Established upwards of Half a Century. Mr. GABRIEL, the Old-Established Resident Dentist, from 65, New-street, to 11, *Bennett's-hill* (next to the Bank of England). Daily attendance from nine a.m. till six p.m. Single Teeth from 5s.; complete sets from £5.

AUCTION ROOMS AND FINE ART GALLERIES (formerly Winstanley's), 44, Church-street, Liverpool, Established 1810, for the Sale by Auction of Furniture, Works of Art, Jewellery, Plate, Books, Wines, China, Glass, Hardware, Carpets, Stocks in Trade, and Goods of every description. Consignments invited. Cash advanced, if required. GEORGE TURNER, Auctioneer, Valuer, &c., Liverpool, 1797.

## NOTICES.

THE London Publishing Office of this paper is at 102, Fleet-street, where the trade can now be supplied early on Friday mornings. The head offices for the country are at 108, New-street, Birmingham. Any business information can be obtained at either of these establishments.

COMMUNICATIONS for the Editor or Publisher should be addressed to 102, Fleet-street, London.

ADVERTISEMENTS are inserted at the rate of 1s. a line, space being charged as lines, and 20 per cent. extra for blocks. Special rates from 1s. 6d. a line are charged for announcements in this page. Illustrated and double column Advertisements can only be inserted in the fourteenth and fifteenth pages.

THE paper will be delivered to the public by any News-agent in London or Birmingham, or direct from the Birmingham Office, at 13s. a-year; or free by post from London for 15s., pre-paid.

## TO ADVERTISERS.

THE ILLUSTRATED MIDLAND NEWS is now an established medium or public announcements. It combines with a first-class country circulation a growing and not unimportant London Sale. With a view to meet the increased demand for the paper, special publishing offices have this week been opened at 102, Fleet-street, in addition to those in Birmingham. THE ILLUSTRATED MIDLAND NEWS may now fairly claim to be regarded by London Advertisers not only as a country but a London paper. Arrangements are being made for a Special Supplement in commemoration of the marriage of the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne.

# Illustrated Midland News.

*JANUARY* 7, 1871.

WHEN they seized the English coal ships, the Prussian soldiers tore down the British flag, stamped upon it, and otherwise demonstrated their contempt for England. Bismarck, however, has said that he will pay any damages that we have sustained. Mr. Odo Russell regards this condescension with favour. At Newcastle-on-Tyne and Sunderland, of which district the crews are natives, the affair has created a profound sensation. The *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, an ably conducted Liberal journal of the extreme school, denounces the Government for not emphatically and at once demanding satisfaction from Prussia. It is not a little remarkable the sudden but great change which has taken place within the last few weeks with regard to the war. Everywhere the sympathisers with France are increasing, and their partisanship is being strengthened by high-handed acts which Prussia will live to regret. We cannot think that the great mass of the German people have any ill-feeling towards England, but it is beyond all doubt true that in the armies around Paris there is a fierce hatred of the English. This antipathy is supported by the lugubrious wit of the German comic papers. There is even a more bitter future than that of the past year in store for Europe.

To be a leader of men in times of danger is to fill a post of especial peril in these degenerate days, when assassination is as rife as it was in times of far less moral pretension. The most liberal as well as the most despotic countries are alike tainted with that political fanaticism which stops short at nothing. President Lincoln might have been regarded as no less sincere in his devotion to America than General Prim to Spain. The death of the illustrious Spaniard will put thorns into the throne of King Amadeus. It is questionable whether the active Republican minority in Spain may not now succeed in overcoming the monarchical arrangements which Prim made with so much anxious care. If the new king is a bold and resolute monarch, he may hold his own. If not, he will find no other Prim in Spain to maintain his royal seat. Prim on his death-bed expressed great concern for his master's safety. King Amadeus loses almost everything in the death of the soldier who gave him his crown.

IN these days of scientific progress it is a pitiable thing to find half London without water, and the other half in danger of being killed in the streets by falling horses. The two sailors in the ballad who pitied the poor folks ashore in a storm, might have added to the perils of flying slates and chimney-pots the dangers of a frost. In the early days of winter, when the streets are coated with frozen ice and snow, for four-and-twenty hours at least, the cabmen take no precautions in the way of having their horses "roughed." The consequence is a series of accidents and an amount of misery to horses which are as sad as they are unnecesary. In country towns, the coming on of frost, as a rule, sends all the horses to the blacksmith. They certainly manage these things better in the provinces than they do in town. That a frost should shut off the water supply of a great city like London is another anomaly of these wonderful days of progress which we hope soon to see removed. In most of the suburbs the inhabitants have had no water for eight or ten days, except what they could get during an hour a day from some standpipe, guarded by a turncock and thronged by crowds armed with every kind of utensil, from a slop-basin to a bucket. If all the scientific men who went out to observe the eclipse of the sun would lay their heads together and concoct a scheme to improve and complete the London water supply in all weathers, and if Government would undertake to carry out their plans, that would be a very useful supplement to their astronomical adventures.

ALL accounts agree in saying that Paris can hold out only a few weeks longer. Victor Hugo, in a letter to his sister-in-law at Guernsey, says:—"We are eating the flesh of horses, and we shall eat the flesh of rats. All Paris is on foot, night and day, for the fight. Charles and Victor (the poet's two sons) are cannoneers, as also Meurice and Vacquerie (two of their friends, Paris *litterateurs*). I shall at the first firing repair to the ramparts. We can hold out yet at least three months. France is rising, and Prussia will be thrust back." The Parisians were "grieved by the evacuation of Mont Avron, but in no wise moved by the bombardment." The Germans threw 12,000 projectiles upon the French position in two days. The latest news by balloon speaks of the increasing privations which the Parisians have to endure. Provisions are becoming scarce in the best quarters of the town; while the poor are put to desperate shifts. Ducrot has requested that a German staff officer may be sent into Paris, and some of the journals are speculating upon this as the first sign of an early capitulation. The probability is that the request simply has reference to Jules Favre's journey to attend the London Conference.

## THE WAR.

THE Parisians will not have long to wait for the crisis. The beautiful city will soon be either saved or torn with shells. The Prussian siege preparations indicate that they intend bombarding both Chatillon and Montretout, and attacking Mont Valerien. The French army has become more enthusiastic with recent successes, and is awaiting with impatience the general attack. The new year opened favourably for the French. The Prussians before Paris have been repulsed in their attack on two of the forts, and great military doings are held out in a Bordeaux telegram among the probabilities of the next few days, the armies of Bourbaki and Chanzy being, it is reported, in excellent spirits and capital condition.

THE Berlin press, taking into consideration the fact that three of the Eastern forts have been silenced, express a conviction that the capitulation of the city is only a question of a few days. A determination is supposed to exist at Versailles to bombard Paris until pesce be concluded.

THE Germans evacuated Gray on Jan. 1, after a severe engagement with the Francs-tireurs of Bourras. Bonny was also evacuated on the same day, the Germans falling back on Gien.

ONE of the most exciting despatches of the week is that announcing the illness of Count Bismarck, who still remains indisposed.

THE King of Prussia gave a grand banquet on Monday night at Versailles, when he addressed those assembled as follows:—"Great events must have passed to unite us on such a day and at such a place. I owe it to your heroism and to your perseverance, as well as to the bravery of the troops, that we have achieved such a success. But we have not yet reached our goal. Important tasks are still before us ere we arrive at an honourable and lasting peace. Such a peace will be ensured if you continue to perform deeds such as have led us to this point. Then we can confidently look to the future for what God in His gracious will may destine for us."

ALTHOUGH English ships have been sunk in the Séine, and Prussians have wiped their feet on the British flag and ill-treated and robbed our sailors, the British Government has done nothing in the matter beyond quietly asking for an explanation. Count Bismarck justifies the act, but it is *believed* redress will be made. As for the honour and dignity of our country that seems to be altogether out of the question, and so long as money comes to hand our Government will no doubt be quite satisfied, and even if money does not come to hand we believe the settlement will still be a peaceful one. "The flag that's braved a thousand years" would certainly seem to be losing its importance when we allow it to be spat upon without demanding an instant and complete apology, and are content to swallow our indignation on the uncertain chance of being paid damages.

THERE are distressing accounts of the sufferings of the French soldiers in consequence of the severe frost, which has been of almost unexampled intensity. General Vinoy declared at a council of war held in Paris, that several times during the night he had been compelled to rouse his men to prevent them from being mortally seized by the frost. "General Ducrot stated," says the *Globe*, "that when some of the wounded had been picked up on the field of action, it was found that many of them had their eyes frozen. One sentinel, when a soldier was sent to relieve him, was found dead, and in a position as if in the act of firing on the enemy. In the immediate neighbourhood of Bourget 600 of the troops were compelled to be brought to the hospital at St. Denis. The number who were frozen on the heights of Avron is said to have been very great. Many of these poor fellows have died, and others will be maimed for life."

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—Red Republicans in Paris are once more active and intriguing. Their supporters are more numerous than is generally supposed, and an effort is being made to bring about a great manifestation. They declare at nightly meetings that General Trochu is a coward and a traitor, and that he and his Government are the real causes of all the French are suffering. Some of the speakers express a belief that the future safety of France lies in the permanent employment of the guillotine. The Government laughs at all this. Nevertheless the Socialist party may become very troublesome.

MILITARY ophthalmia is raging in the German armies before Paris. There is also great discouragement in Paris, where the provisions are rapidly falling short. It is foreseen that, unless relieved, the city must speedily recapitulate. The government have issued to the people of Paris the following proclamation:—

> "The extraordinary and lasting severity of this winter season has caused us great suffering for the last eight days. At the present time the cold is our cruellest enemy. The whole populace in this new trial shows the persistence of the public spirit and the indefatigable efforts of that voluntary discipline which now for nearly four months has honoured the people of Paris in the eyes of France and of history. On its part the Administration has done everything that the situation demanded—that is to say, everything possible. Since the cold has set in the Mayors of Paris have ordered that large quantities of fuel should be cut in the woods of the city, viz., in the Bois de Boulogne and the Bois de Vincennes, which have been set apart for that purpose. The plantations which line the national and departmental roads are sacrificed without distinction; the large trees of our boulevards have also been cut and sold. This work, which has placed at our disposal immense stores, is being accomplished with all the celerity consistent with so great a work, and with the necessary transport. At the same time all the timber yards where the wood was prepared for use have been placed at our disposal; and, despite the enormous expense, we do not hesitate to deliver for consumption sawn planks usually reserved for building purposes. The Mayors of Paris are receiving assistance from all parts; all the syndicates, all the administrations, and the corporation are supporting us with a most praiseworthy zeal, an assistance as precious as it is disinterested. Each has done his duty, and, thanks to their united efforts, we shall thus come to the end of this terrible winter. But the populace on its part must come to our aid; they must supply by their goodwill, by their honesty, and by their voluntary assistance, those measures for the preservation of order which are lacking. If the timber yards where the wood for distribution by the municipality is stored are, as has been the case, broken into and pillaged; if our coppices at Vincennes and Boulogne are nightly robbed by bands of marauders whom it would be impossible to seize withont the assistance of the National Guard and of honest men; if public and private property are not respected, it is not possible either to supply provisions or to apportion them equally. We denounce these marauders and pillagers to the National Guard and the population. They are the accomplices of the enemy, and the Administration is resolved to punish them with the greatest energy."

MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE.—The advantages of the Scottish Provident Institution, as compared with other offices, are a greatly larger original assurance for the same premium, and eventually to good lives, as large additions as where the ordinary high rate of premium is charged.—For particulars, apply to Mr. A. FORREST, 10, Cherry-street, Birmingham. [105

THE HAIR.—THE PLAIN TRUTH.—Mrs. Allen's World's Hair Restorer will positively restore the natural original colour in every case of greyness, no matter from what cause it arises, and the hair is stimulated to natural growth. The "Zylobalsamum," as a hair-dressing for young and old, is the best article that can be used; it imparts a gloss and vigorous appearance to the hair very beautiful to see. The Restorer, 6s.; the Zylobalsamum, 3s.; in large bottles only.—Depot, 266, High Holborn, London, Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers, [189

THEATRICAL WIGS, WHISKERS, &c.—The Largest Stock in Town, for Sale or Hire. Private Wigs from 10s. to 100s. Hair Cutting, Brushing, and Shampooing, charge 6d. Immediate attendance. Respectful attention by first-class Men from the best houses of London, Paris, and Berlin The largest and best 6d. and 1s. bottle of Pomade in the trade; has had an immense sale for eighteen years. Choice Hair Washes, from 1s. 6d. Lime Cream, from 1s. Genuine and delightfully perfumed Lime Juice and Glycerine, from 1s. to 6s. A very large assortment of Hair, Tooth, Nail, Hat, and Cloth Brushes, by best makers, from 1s. Dressing Combs in *Tortoiseshell*, *Bone*, *Ivory*, *Horn*, and *Vulcanite*, from 6d. A splendid variety of fancy Back Combs, from 1s. to 50s. Large selection of Fans from 6d. to 60s., including the newest shapes and patterns. The largest stock of Toilet Requisites and Fancy Goods in the Midland Counties, selected from the best houses of Paris and London, at STEELE'S, HAIR CUTTER and ARTIST in HAIR, Opposite the Railway Station, New-street, Birmingham. [591

## INCIDENTS OF THE WEEK.

Another collision on the North Eastern Railway occurred on Saturday morning, on the Ferry-hill, Stockton, and Hartlepool branch. Although there were no lives sacrificed, the accident was attended by a serious loss of rolling stock.—There was an alarming collision at Barrow-upon-Soar station, near Loughborough, on Saturday evening. A London express dashed into a goods train, at the rate of forty miles an hour, smashing the waggons to pieces. When the express was stopped it was found that the passengers had not received serious injury, and the engine was but little damaged. The express was propelled by one of the Midland Company's new and very powerful express engines, which accounts for the engine keeping on the line.—A collision took place on the North London Railway, between the Camden Town and Barnsbury Stations, at about eight o'clock on Tuesday morning. The guard was found huddled up at the bottom of his break. He was thought to be dead until taken to the great Northern Hospital, where it was found he was still alive. Several other persons have received injuries from the shock of the collision.

The death of Marshal Prim, which occurred at half-past nine on Saturday night, has brought about a profound sensation throughout Europe. It appears that after removing one finger, inflammation set in, and it was soon found that life could not be saved, even by the amputation of the arm. When the Marshal was made aware of the rapid approach of death, he bade adieu to his friends with composure. The funeral took place on Sunday.

In order to give time to M. Favre, and to messengers bringing instructions to some of the other plenipotentiaries to arrive, the conference has been put off for a few days.

Mr. Chichester Fortescue takes the place of Mr. John Bright in the Cabinet, and the Marquis of Hartington has accepted the office of Chief Secretary for Ireland. A minister without a seat in the Cabinet will hold the office of Postmaster-General.

A vote of condolence and sympathy with Mr. Walter, M.P. and his family was passed on Monday by the Berkshire magistrates for the loss they have sustained by the lamented death of Mr. Walter, jun.

On Sunday, in almost every Episcopal Church in Dublin reference was made from the pulpit to the altered circumstances of the Irish Protestant Church, the Act disestablishing it having now come into force. It was generally made matter of congratulation that during the year 1870 so much had been done, with tolerable success, to reconstruct it on a new basis. There was very little political matter in the sermons, and collections were made everywhere in aid of a Sustentation Fund.

The election expenses of Colonel Learmouth, the new member for Colchester, have just been returned at £946.

The contributors to the Edinburgh Infirmary have voted against the admission of lady students by 10 votes to 96.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs that the troops in the South-Western provinces of Russia are being continually reinforced.

At Osborne on Monday a Christmas tree was prepared by her Majesty's command for the upper servants of the household, and another for the remainder of the servants. In the evening her Majesty distributed the gifts on each of the trees.

The Worcestershire quarter sessions has adopted a memorial in favour of defraying a larger proportion of local expenditure out of Imperial funds.

Some of the Church papers, which profess to be well informed, state that Dr. Pusey is founding a new community of Anglican nuns, who are to be entirely clad in habits of pure and spotless white.

Advices from Pera state that there are renewed differences between the Porte and the Khedive. The Porte complains of disregard by the Khedive of his last firman, especially as regards armaments.

The *Pall Mall* mentions a singular incident in connection with the Admiralty and some of its officers. Instructions have been received at Chatham directing that the whole of the stewards of the several vessels of war in harbour, as well as those belonging to the Royal Naval Barracks, were to be placed under arrest, and their books and other official documents taken possession of. This extreme measure has, we hear, given rise to a considerable amount of conjecture, as since the persons concerned have been in custody a number of officials from the Admiralty have been sent down for the purpose of making private investigations of the books and other official documents in the care of the persons under arrest.

On Tuesday, the Warwickshire magistrates decided to petition government to revise the present system of local taxation, so as to relieve present ratepayers by distributing the burden equally over all property. Mr. Newdegate, in supporting the petition, said that if extragance existed anywhere, it was not in the military or naval, but in the civil service estimates, and there was a large body of officials interested in not having the latter reduced, whilst it was convenient for the Ministry and the House of Commons to shift the charges from the civil service estimates upon the ratepayers, through quarter sessions. The Devonshire magistrates yesterday resolved to petition in favour of several of the charges now paid out of the county rate being repaid out of the national exchequer, the county having the control of only 20 per cent. of the rates raised.

An extensive fire occurred on Sunday morning on board the Mierendorff Wardow, brig, of Rostock, as she lay partially loaded with coal amongst a tier of vessels in Jackson's Dock, West Hartlepool. Before the fire could be put out a considerable amount of damage was done to the vessel, estimated at from £800 to £1,000.

The marriage of Sir Alexander Robert Smythe Muir Mackenzie, Bart., and Miss Moncrieffe, eldest unmarried daughter of Sir Thomas and Lady Louisa Moncrieffe, and sister of the Countess of Dudley, is arranged to take place in a few weeks in Scotland.

James Loveday, late manager of the London business of Mr. Candlish, M.P., was on Tuesday committed for trial from the Thames Police-court on a charge of embezzlement. Bail was fixed at £1,000 for the prisoner and two sureties of £500 each.

After a severe frost of twelve days' duration, the first signs of a thaw set in on Tuesday, when, with a south-west wind, the thermometer stood at two degrees above freezing point. In view of the probable break-up of the ice the Royal Humane Society at once placed an extra number of men on duty. There has been skating on the Thames at Windsor.

The Junior Gun Club shot many sweepstake matches of £5 each at Hendon on Tuesday. Four sweepstakes were at three birds each, and the first and second were won by Mr. Austen, scoring all his pigeons in each instance. In the third and fourth Mr. Radnor was the winner, tying at first with Mr. Austen, both bringing down all their birds, but in shooting off the latter was defeated by one.

There has been another disaster on the Mississippi. During the night of the 18th of December the steamer Nick Wall struck a snag near Vicksburg, and the cabin, on which was piled a large amount of merchandise, falling in, the escape of many of the passengers was prevented. There were 15 cabin passengers, of whom nine were lost, and 125 deck passengers, of whom 30 were lost. They were all emigrants from the Upper Mississippi to Texas. The wreck floated three miles down the river, and was met by the steamer Seminole which took off the survivors.

The fatality from small-pox is rapidly increasing in London. During the first 13 weeks of the year 1870 the number of fatal cases registered in London was 99; in the next 13 weeks the number was 118; in the following 13 weeks of the summer quarter the deaths rose to 157; and in the last 13 weeks of the year they amounted to 584. Altogether there were 958 fatal cases registered in the 52 weeks of 1870.

Mr. Watkin Williams, M.P., addressing his constituents at Wrexham last night, announced his intention of merging his motion on the disestablishment of the Welsh Church in the more general one in reference to Church Establishments, to be introduced by Mr. Miall.

John Lake, aged eighty-one, who, it is stated, was formerly coachman to George IV., died suddenly on Sunday. While eating his dinner in a coffee-house a large piece of meat got into his windpipe, and he died from choking in a few minutes.

The Russians, when their last order shall have been completed, in April, will be in possession of 420 Gatlings, whereas up to the present moment the British Government has only ordered twelve.

It appears from an official statement as to the present traffic by the French Atlantic cable that the messages forwarded by it average 7,000 words daily, being at the rate of five words a minute for the whole twenty-four hours, a speed which suffices to clear off all the messages sent within the day. On some days nearly 10,000 words have been transmitted in the twenty-four hours.

Some idea of the cold of last week is furnished by the Registrar-General. The mean temperature at Greenwich Observatory was 25.7, or 11.7 below the average of the same week in 50 years. On the night of Christmas Day the thermometer fell to 9.8 degrees.

Mr. Donnelly, Registrar-General for Ireland, has issued a circular to the clergy of the disestablished Church, directing them to erase from the marriage registers the words "Church of Ireland," and to substitute the words "Protestant Episcopal Church of Ireland." Many of them have returned for answer a flat, and not over-polite refusal to comply with this order, which, they maintain, asks them to falsify the title accorded to the Church even by the Act of Parliament by which it was disestablished.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* gives the following list of successful candidates (arranged in order of merit) for admission to the Royal Military Academy:—

John Warre Sill, 5,323 marks; James Wolfe Murray, 5,174; Arthur Henry Bagnold, 4,926; Harry Borlase Willcock, 4,821; Charles d'Anyers Willis, 4,665; Richard Francis Johnson, 4,623; Willoughby Verner Constable, 4,569; George Hamilton Sim, 4,528; Henry Davison Love, 4,478; George William Buchanan, 4,432; Ernest Frederic Rhodes, 4,384; Francis Beaufort, 4,383; Robert Jennings, 4,335; Kenneth MacKean, 4,319; Arthur Sullivan, 4,309; Henry Andrews Speed, 4,300; Henry Claughton Chesshyre Walker, 4,294; St. Andrew Bruce Warde, 4,291; Reginald Oakes, 4,258; Alfred Mansel, 4,250; Herbert Edward Rawson, 4,184; Arthur Houston Hewat, 4,162; George Frederick Farquharson Shirreff, 4,159; James Laing Fixott, 4,152; John Charles Tyler, 4,094; Harry George Weir, 4,082; William Robert Prickett, 4,067; Ernest Cassan, 4,066; John Jervois, 4,018; John Stewart Scott Barker, 4,000; William Jacob Mackenzie, 4,010; Herbert Jones Daubeny, 4,001; Arthur Mordaunt Murray, 3,931; Philip Thomas Buston, 3,895; Frederic Brice Bunny, 3,875; Percy Alexander MacMahon, 3,851; Charles Reginald Hoskyn, 3,836; George Nugent, 3,832; John Dacres Cunningham, 3,745; Cecil Longridge, 3,716.

For Table Delicacies, Desserts, &c., "Sea Moss Farine" is the most healthful, economical, convenient, and delicious food in the world. A Shilling Packet will produce *Sixteen Quarts* of Blanc Mange, Custard Pudding, Charlotte Russe, Floating Island, &c. Sea Moss Farine is in a far more concentrated form than Corn Flours, Maizena, and other farinaceous or gelatinous articles. Its cheapness, wholesomeness, and simplicity of preparation will commend it to all Hotels, Families, and Restaurants. Sold by all Chemists and Grocers. Sea Moss Farine Co., 266, High Holborn, London. [21

Pure Water.—Alfred Bird, Experimental Chemist, begs to announce that he has perfected his new Carbon Filter, price 7s. 6d. each, which he guarantees shall deliver 60 gallons of the purest water daily.—To be seen in action at 69, Worcester-street, Birmingham. [930

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Reliable Remedies.—In wounds bruises, sprains, glandular swellings, enlarged veins, neuralgic pains and rheumatism, the application of this soothing Ointment to the affected parts not only gives the greatest ease, but likewise cures the complaint. The Pills wonderfully assist in banishing the tendency to rheumatism and similar painful disorders, whilst the Ointment cures every local ailment. The Pills remove all constitutional disturbance and regulate every impaired function of every organ throughout the human body. The cure is neither temporary nor superficial, but permanent and complete, and the disease rarely recurs, so perfect has been the purification performed by these searching yet harmless preparations.

## GOSSIP.

Miss Glyn appeared last week for the first time in New York, at Steinway Hall, when she gave a dramatic presentation of "Antony and Cleopatra."

Miss Rose Leclercq, from the Princess's Theatre, London, is to join the dramatic company at the Globe Theatre, in Boston.

The difficulty between Mr. Fechter and other parties, referred to in another part of our paper, at the Globe Theatre, Boston, has culminated in the withdrawal of the former from the management of the theatre.

Mr. Gladstone spoke one hundred and seventy-eight times during the last session of Parliament.

The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, referring to General Butler's fiery speech, observed—"And cursed—cursed of God, and of men cursed—be that man who counsels the red right hand of war, except when it is needful to fight for our own existence."

We have every reason to know that there is no truth in the report that Gustave Doré has been killed in a sortie from Paris. M. Doré, we believe, left the beleagured city for Switzerland two months ago.

Mr. Joseph Eldred, who has just terminated a most successful tour through the provinces with Andrew Halliday's *Little Em'ly*, has been entrusted by Messrs. Montague, James, and Thorne with the management of their provincial company, selected for the representation ot James Albery's brilliant comedy, the *Two Roses*.

The *Birmingham Morning News* appeared this week. Mr. George Dawson opens with a sparkling declaration of the political and social views which the paper will enunciate and support.

A writer in the *Court Circular* says in *The Magic Flute* Christine Nilsson sings F above the staff. The youngest of the sisters Sessi, with a compass of three octaves and a half, reached the same note. Catalan had the same wonderful compass, but pitched a third lower. The highest voice on record is that of Lucrezia Ajugari, whom Mozart heard at Parma. With a voice as pure as a flute, she ascended to triple C, trilling on the D above. A Madame Becker, who astonished St. Petersburgh in 1823, reached the same note by accident. The air in the third act of *The Robber's Castle*, composed for her, goes up to double A. On one occasion, as she was giving this dangerous note, the leader of the orchestra looked so fixedly at her that she was frightened, and gave the C above.

London is to have a new daily paper, "backed with plenty of capital," and edited by Blanchard Jerrold.

The "Lady of Lyons" was brought out at Niblo's, New York, on Wednesday evening last, with Mr. Walter Montgomery as Claude Melnotte, and Mrs. Scott-Siddons as Pauline Dechappelles.

The new Paris opera-house is now a military bakery, and Auber has said: "*On pétrit la farine dans le Palais du Son.*"

The third volume of the "Histoire de la Litterature Hindouie et Hindoustanie,'' by M. Garcin de Tassy, which was to be published in October last, is unavoidably delayed on account of the war; the author being at Caen, where he is staying with his friend M. A. de Caumont, the eminent archæologist, has not been able to receive and correct the proof-sheets since the investment of Paris.

A Cambridge correspondent writes that the subject for the Hulsean prize essay for the ensuing year is "A Critical and Theological Estimate of the Books of Ecclesiasticus and Wisdom." The candidates must be members of the university under the degree or standing of Master of Arts.

Franz Liszt has again settled in Hungary, where the title of Director-General of Music has been conferred upon him, to be exchanged for that of Director-General of the Hungarian Academy of Music after that institution shall have been established.

The death is announced of Mr. Andrew Gray, a well-known London reporter. Deceased had been connected with the Press for a great number of years. He died from consumption.

According to the London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury*, the letters from Tours which appeared in the *Times* are by Mr. Dallas, and those from Paris in the same journal by no less a person than Mr. Grenville Murray, of *Queen's Messenger* notoriety. He has been very much wanted in London during the last few days, but being "interned" in Paris he could not gratify the wishes of his friends.

Mr. Hume Williams is the author of the political summary in *The Gentleman's Annual*.

The *Tomahawk*, it is said, will be shortly revived, with a special view to make it a high-toned organ of national sentiment.

Mr. Freeman the publisher, of Fleet-street, has given up business and gone into the church..

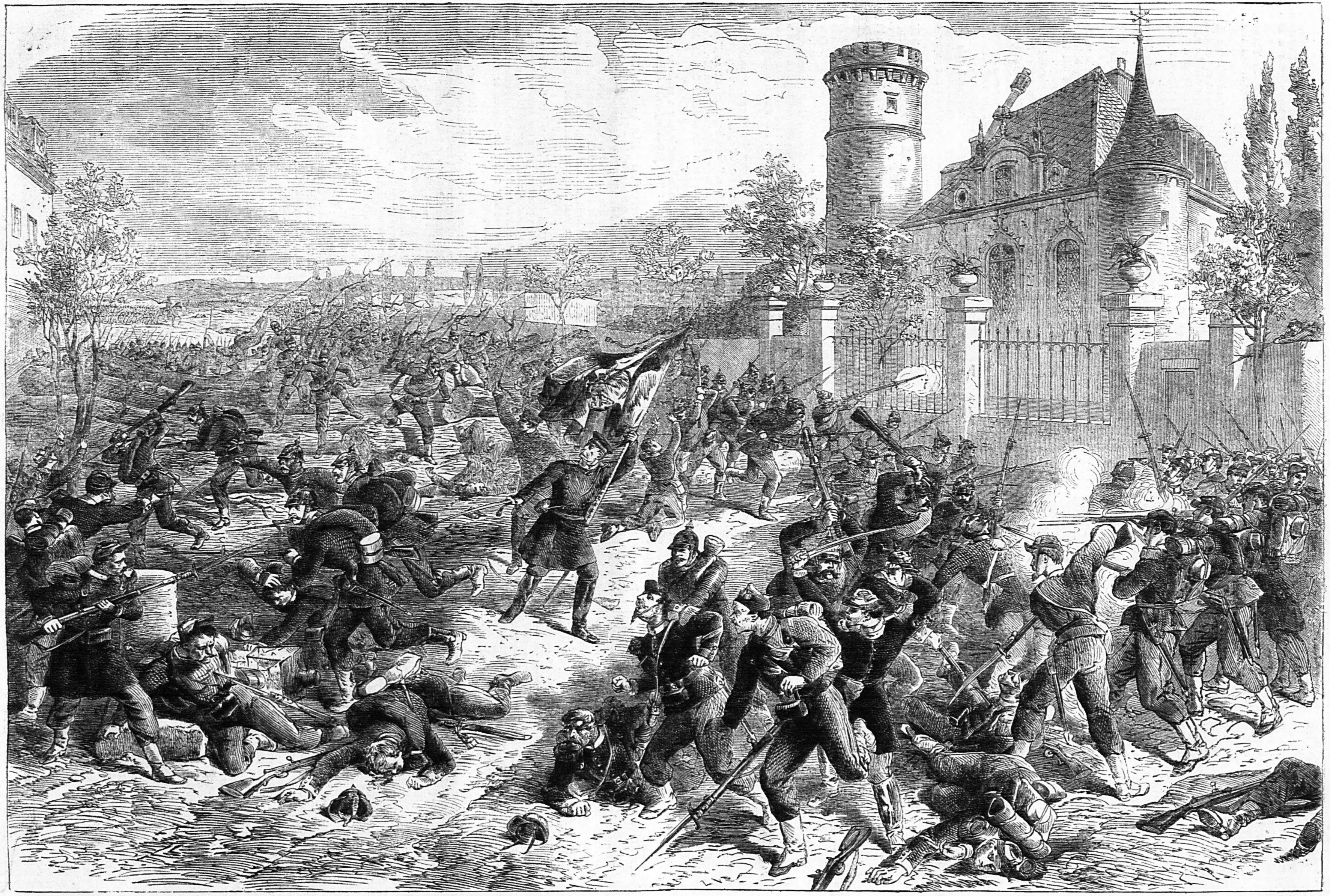
The *London Figaro* seems to have a hard fight. It has once more changed its price to a penny. A new feature is the introduction of war telegrams.

*Saratoga* is the title of a new play which seems likely to have a very successful run at the Fifth Avenue Theatre, New York.

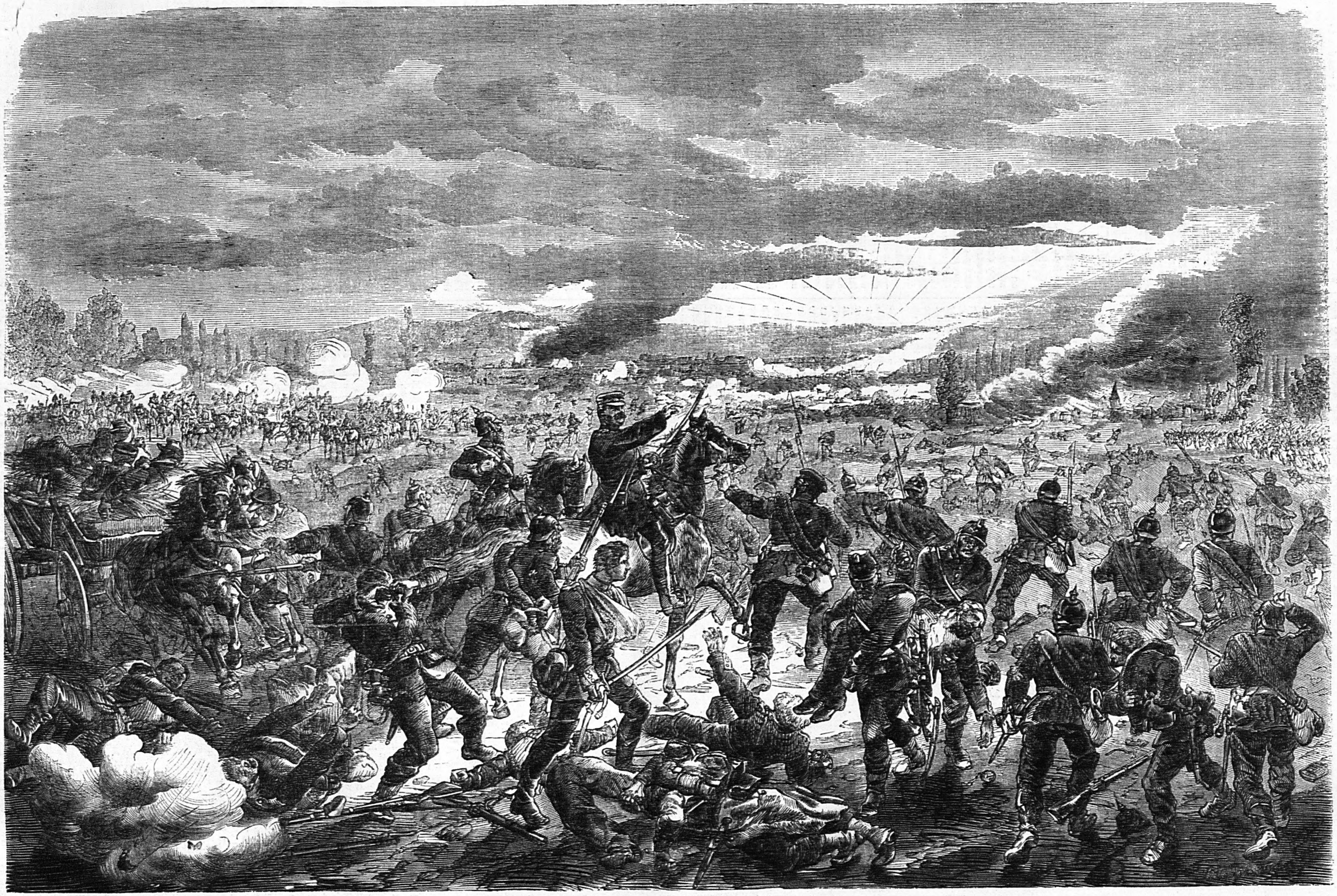
Maravilla Cocoa for Breakfast.—The *Globe* says—Taylor Brothers' Maravilla Cocoa has achieved a thorough success, and supersedes every other cocoa in the market. Entire solubility, delicate aroma, and all the concentration of the purest elements of nutrition, distinguish the Maravilla Cocoa above all others. For homœopaths and invalids we could not recommend a more agreeable or valuable beverage.—Sold in packets only, by all grocers. Sole proprietors, Taylor Brothers, London. [76

Faceache, Toothache, Tic Doloreux.—ADAM SMITH'S NEURALGINE effects a certain cure.—Depôt, 39, Ann-street. Sold by all Chemists; and J. Yardley, of Bloxwich. [107

Important.—14, Carr's-lane, Birmingham. Established 1861, for the sale of Pure Tea. Connoisseurs pronounce the Tea sold at this Warehouse superior to any that can be obtained elsewhere. Twenty-five per cent. saved in value. [24



THE CONFLICT BY LE BOURGET, BEFORE PARIS ON THE 30TH OF OCTOBER.



THE BATTLE OF PANGE, NEAR METZ.

## FRANCE, 1871.

THEY came, they fetched him away,
And he went full loth to go;
'Twas the eve of our bridal day,
But the Emperor willed it so.

War was declared: men must fight;
I wrapt up my wedding gown
And put it far out of my sight
Ere the men marched out of the town.

We stood on the green hill side,
His mother and I, neither spoke
Till in gloom the sad day died,
And the bell for vespers woke.

Hand in hand we entered where
Silver lamps were burning dim;
Voices round me repeated the prayer,
But I only thought of him.

Then the good priest made essay,
By such words as might beseem,
On Faith and Hope our grief to stay,—
I heard him as if in a dream.

Months passed, there came no word
From him—at last one night
His remembered tread I heard
Outside; it was broad moonlight.

Not a footprint on the plain,—
The snow for miles around
Lay spotless,—nearer again
I heard the well-known sound.

A shudder over me crept,
A wild, unspeakable dread;
I could not have spoken or wept,
Though I knew my Love was dead.

Better to have died by his side
Than here to draw a breath;
O my Love for whom I had died,
Fallen, and trodden to death!

Ah! frightful ghastly War!
Surging at one man's will;
Like a sea overwhelming its shore;
Who its awful waves can still?

And when its fury is spent,
Say ye, who first began,
Will ye live with minds content,
Forgetting the blood that ran?

Forget in some tardy peace
Signed by the mighty and brave,
The tears that will only cease
In the friendly night of the grave?

The deserted untilled field
Will be green but with worthless weed;
What harvest will ruin yield?
Say ye, who have sowed the seed!

ST. GERMAIN.

## AN ENGLISH DOG'S WALKS AND NOTES IN AMERICA.

### HIS FIRST LETTER TO HIS FRIENDS IN ENGLAND.

As there are more English men than English dogs that visit America, and as few dogs at home or abroad make notes of what they see, hear, and think in their walks, I take my pen in hand to write a little about my voyage across the great water, and what I have seen in this country. I don't wish my brethren in England to think I am a learned dog, or can really handle the pen better than they can; but of course I keep my eyes and ears open as they do, and I think a good deal about what I see and hear; and then I talk with my eyes and tail to my master; and as he knows several languages, he reads mine, and knows what I would like to say to him and other people. And when I have told my story in my own way, he writes it out on paper. He writes this letter for me in this way, and says he will write as many more as I wish to send to my friends in England. Although he is very busy with his pen, I think I shall hold him to his promise, and send you a letter every week, especially as it will not cost much, as he says there is now an Ocean Penny Postage between the two countries. I don't know what that means, as I never had much to do with money; but he says poor people in England and America do not have to pay so much for their letters to each other as they did once.

In the first place I must tell you a little about myself, and what took me to America. I am proud to say that I am a true British born dog, though my parents came from a country people call Pomerania. And I can say, more to my credit still, although my master is an American, and took me to live with him when I was but a few weeks old and no longer than a kitten, I have held on to my old British feeling and ways to this day, and I am not going to give them up for any notions or customs I see in this democratic country, as they call it. No! As long as I live I will stand fast and proud to family blood and to British stock. My master is very kind to me, and tries to teach me different thoughts, but never for a moment have I believed that all men are born free and equal, as he calls it. Can I, a British born dog, of an old country family, believe that doctrine here any more than I could in England? Are all men born equal there? From what I have yet seen I am not going to believe they are born equal here. When I was not six months old, it was a second nature to me at our English home, to show people that they were not all born equal, or free to come and go on an equal footing. This second nature told me at first sight whether a man, or woman, or child belonged to a good family. In spite of all my master's lessons about politeness and honouring all men, I let every person, young or old, that come to our house in shabby clothes and hobnailed shoes, know that he was no better than a thief, or a beggar at best: and I always wanted to take them by the heel and drive them off the premises. All the boxed ears I got from my master and mistress never cured me of this habit of my second nature. I felt it due to my British blood to maintain it, and all the more because I was living with an American family in England. I was determined to show them that I knew the social rank of people, and that I was not going to be *Americanised*, as they call it, either at home or abroad. This sense of duty got me into a difficulty, once, which made me and the family much trouble.

A poor woman came one day to our house in such shocking clothes, that I was determined she should not enter the kitchen door. But my mistress interfered, and let her in, and gave her a lot of things to wear. I was indignant to have such a woman talked to and treated in that way, so I followed her out, and gave her a piece of my mind for nearly half a mile. I was resolved to have the bundle of clothes and carry them back to the house. But, after a dozen springs at them, she caught me in her arms, and I found she was stronger than my family pride. She held me so tightly that I could not move nor speak. In this way she carried me off further and further—clean through a great town, on and on, I knew not where. When she had gone along and across more streets than I could count, we came into a great lot of little shabby, tumble-down houses, with dirty, ragged children playing or lying in the gutter. And here the ugly old creature gave me over to another beggarly woman as ugly as herself, and said to her, in my hearing: "Here is a proud little puppy for you. He's a pet at home, and his master will be sure to offer a good price for him. Mind,—we go half and half in the money." And that ill-bred creature took me in her dirty arms, and carried me to her good-for-nothing house and shut me up in a cold, smutty hole of a room, where in a few minutes my ermine robe was smeared with grease and coal-dust. What I endured there for three days and nights I was ashamed to tell, even to my master and mistress, when they came after me. I was so changed, so dirty, thin and shaggy, that they did not know me at first sight, but I knew them at a glance, and I thought my heart had got up in my mouth and choked me for a minute, for I could not speak for joy. And their joy was as great as mine, and the old woman pretended to be glad they had found me, especially when they put a good many silver pieces in her hand: she even made a great show of affection for me; and bent down and kissed me just as I was getting into the cab to go home. And I must say that I seemed on the way to love everybody, even the two old women, so glad was I to be at my own fireside again, where I was fondled and welcomed so kindly by all, and by none more warmly than by Miss Pussy, who had missed me at home. I had always shared my bed and board with her, and many a cold winter night we had lain awake and told our dreams to each other.

Now I have told all this story about myself that no dog of high birth and family in England who reads this letter, will think for a moment that I will not stand by my order as proudly here as I would on any English nobleman's hearthrug at home. I may be a little more cautious how I show my pride of birth, but I shall let the men and dogs I meet in America know that I feel it, even when I play with them on their own footing.

Well, before I was two years old, my master, who had lived in England a good many years, told me one day that he must go back to America to live. He said he should like to take with him all the pets of his English home; not only me, but Mrs. Fawny, our beautiful, kind-eyed cow, who used to let me help myself to her milk in her stable when the servant was late with her pail. He wished he could take the pigeons also that billed and cooed on the roof, and the spangled biddies with their funny chicks. These were all very dear to him, and if he could only have us all around him in his American home, it would seem to him like living in both countries at the same time, or with the parlour in one and the kitchen in the other. But as he could not take us all he would let me stand for the rest, and see them all in me, when I lay by his fire in the land he was going to. Whenever he saw me trotting around the house, he should remember how I looked one morning when I stood with the end of Mrs. Fawny's rope in my mouth, holding her in the stable door, while she chewed her cud in my face, and smiled upon me with her pleasant eyes, as if she said, "I only came out to bid you 'good morning.'"

It was a sad day to us all when we had to say good-bye to our English home and all that made it so dear to us. I had made a large circle of acquaintances as well as my master and mistress. Then, as you may all well believe, I did not know where I was going to; and I knew that there could not be such another country in the wide world as England. I had overheard a good deal of talk about the ideas and ways of people in America; that they had no kings nor queens there, nor any great people by birth. Of course I could not tell my master all I thought about his country from hearsay. Still, while I put the best face I could upon the matter, and really felt it an honour that he should take me above all the pets he loved, I had much misgiving of mind, feeling that I was leaving the best society in the world for the very common walks of life in a strange land.

This is already a long letter, and I have not said a word in it about our journey by land and sea to America, as I intended and promised to do when I sat down to write out my experience. I thought it was due to you as well as myself, that you should know something of the family and social position of the writer of a considerable number of letters that may be sent you from America. My master says he has read many letters and books about this country written by Englishmen of different kinds of learning, but that he never saw in print the views of a well-educated and judicious English dog in regard to American institutions and customs. He thinks that such views would be deemed original, useful, and interesting in England, and he is quite willing to write out mine for me in a letter every week to my brethren and friends in England. So in my next I intend to give them some account of our voyage and landing in America.

And now, wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, I am, ever your faithful brother,

America, December 24th, 1870. QUIMEAUX.

## WATCHMAN, WHAT OF THE NIGHT?

THE *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, stirred by the local indignation at the insult offered to the British flag, and by its own patriotism, describes the following "Christmas Nightmare:"—

"The people fancy that the footprint of a foe, if found on the deck of an English vessel, is a stain which cannot be holystoned out. The people have dreamed an ugly dream, and are dreaming it still—that hostile feet have trodden the decks of English ships, that at the stamp of those profane feet the flag of England has been lowered, that the liege servants of that flag have been fired on and driven forth to shelter among the rocks through the winter night, and then their ships have been sunk. The dream is wonderfully life-like, and condescends to arithmetic. It appears as if the outrage had been multiplied by six. But then it may be a dream—it must be a dream—surely it cannot be anything else. For were it true, the black heavens above us would, ere this, have grown red with the wrath of England, and the far-rolling thunder of vengeance would have broken the deadly stillness and scattered the stifling fog! If it be a dream, it is a muddling one, and the sooner the nation awakes from its nightmare the better. Let those who deem it a dream see to this awaking, or mischief may come of sleep-walking.

"If it is not a dream, if these are not shadows but hard facts that men are buffeting with, and helping each other to grapple and master, then it is high time to inquire whether our watchmen are asleep at their posts, or astray from their beats, while all the rest of the nation are awake, and anxious, and ready to move whenever and wherever the watchmen may direct. When a state is spoken of under the figure of a ship, men think of the Press as the Look-out and of the Government as the man at the helm. Let us put the question, 'What of the night' to these chiefs of the Watch, aad what answer shall we get? From the Look-out we have a right to expect distinct announcements of ships on the bows or of breakers ahead, if breakers or ships there are; and from the steersmen we await, but with justifiable impatience, the manœuvre that is to save us from collision and wreck. Have we obtained what we have a right to expect from the Press? Have we received any token that the Government is alive to the danger of the crisis? That portion of the Press which assumes to rule the opinion of England, because it happens to have set up its throne in the capital, has done its utmost to forfeit the confidence which the nation too blindly conceded to it, and to damage the esteem to which its unquestionable talent entitled it. With the honourable exception of one or two papers, the metropolitan daily Press has been afflicted with Prussophobia since the first week in August, and the direful disease has undermined their English character to such an extent that if the dead thunderers of the last generation could rise from their graves for a peep at the news, they would think that Germany had swallowed up the chief bulwark of English liberty, much as the German Ocean had before their day swallowed up hamlets, villages, fortresses, churches, and towns on our eastern coast—only much quicker."

Strong language this from one of the leading Radical papers of the North, and one of the best conducted journals in England. The *Chronicle* may be fairly said to represent the opinions of the vast population on the Tyne. There is far more power in this Northern passion than can be gauged by the London mind. Prussia is raising up an enemy which she will find it no easy task to cope with. The Parliament of England will have a stormy re-assembling in February.

FLORILINE!!—For the Teeth and Breath.—A few drops of the FRAGRANT FLORILINE on a wet tooth brush produces a delightful foam, which cleanses the Teeth from all impurities, strengthens and hardens the gums, prevents tartar, and arrests the progress of decay. It gives to the Teeth a peculiar and beautiful whiteness, and imparts a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed Teeth, a disordered stomach, or tobacco smoke. The Fragrant Floriline is purely vegetable, and equally adapted to old and young. It is the greatest Toilet discovery of the age. Sold in elegant cases, complete, at 2s. 6d., by all Chemists and Perfumers.—H. C. GALLUP, Proprietor, 493, Oxford-street, London. [156

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist, and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately: it is perfectly harmless: it produces natural quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It is very pleasant to take; it soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Sold by all medicine vendors at 1s, 1½d, per bottle. [694

IRON WINE BINS.—How difficult in many houses to keep a few dozen of Wine as wine ought to be kept—SAFE, STEADY, and EASY OF ACCESS! The simplest contrivances of the day are the portable WINE BINS invented by Messrs. BURROW, of Great Malvern. They provide a separate rest for each bottle, soon save their cost, and can be filled or emptied by a child without risk. Made of any size or shape, they can be fixed in a minute anywhere in Cellar, Store-room, or Pantry—even the space "under the stairs," or any odd corner in a Batchelor's Chambers may be utilised, and (happy thought) *all can be kept safe under lock and key!* Messrs. Burrow send explanatory Pictorial Illustrations of their Patent Bins, post free, to any one who chooses to write for them, and we believe that Ironmongers and Wine Merchants now very generally keep the various size Bins for sale.—*London Paper*, [148

## BIRMINGHAM AND THE MIDLANDS.

The first number of the new Daily Paper, edited by George Dawson, was published on Monday. It is called the *Birmingham Morning News*. In the capital of the Midlands the editorship of George Dawson is considered a sufficient *raison d'etre* for the new journal. The famous preacher at the church of the Saviour, whom all Sunday sojourners in Birmingham go to hear, the witty and intrepid speaker who for more than twenty years has been the most popular lecturer in England, is credited with a platform of his own wide enough and distinct enough to make the reputation and success of a newspaper. Outside Birmingham people do not easily understand what ground another Liberal paper can take by the side of the old-established journals. The capital of the Midlands is the centre of the Liberalism of England. It is the town of towns to stop at no half measures. What have the journalists of the "village" been doing all this time, that the people should want a fresh Liberal organ so late in the day? The question is hard to answer. There were two good morning papers already. The *Gazette* is called Conservative; anywhere else its principles would do very well for a Liberal community. Not so much in politics as in administration does it find itself in antagonism with such a Government as that which now holds Her Majesty's commission. The *Post* is a Liberal organ. Anywhere but in Birmingham it would be considered very advanced. Nevertheless, it does not satisfy all the Liberals. From the programme of the new paper we glean no very extravagant sentiments, as times go; but this may be taken for granted, that if there is ground to be occupied more advanced than that taken up by the *Post*, there will be found the *Morning News*. It is a sort of pioneer of the future. Glancing down George Dawson's address to the audience whom he has called round this new platform, we find some noteworthy points. It gives a word of warning to the English and Scotch Church establishments. They are called upon to prove their claim to nationality, or to yield their claim to national support. Reading the opening paragraph reflectively, one may glean from it the readiness of this organ of public opinion to make in our form of government *any* change that may seem calculated to promote the well-being of the nation; for, says the editor, "in the Divine right of this or that form we have no belief." In education the *Morning News* will back the League. But the strong point in the programme is that which has to do with the relations of labour and capital. It advocates "a juster distribution of the results of toil," but this consummation is not to be realised by means of strikes. The means hinted at are broad and comprehensive, but the chief of them is co-operation. "Upon workmen," says the editor, "we shall urge the importance of taking a share in industrial and landed property, and this share to be the result of thrift, temperance, and habits of association and co-operation." There is room in this prospectus for the development of a unique provincial newspaper.

On a certain Sunday in October the annual collections at the churches and chapels of Birmingham in aid of the local charities took place. From various reasons, in a few cases, the collection was postponed till a future day, and now at the end of the year the revised total amount is published. The sum is £4,084 14s. 11d. That is surely something for Birmiugham to be proud of. It is a larger amount than was ever before realised in a similar way, notwithstanding the drain on the purses of the benevolent for the relief of the sick and wounded in war. A few weeks earlier the managers of the Great Triennial Musical Festival found themselves, at the close of the concerts, in possession of £14,500 subscribed and taken at the doors. Of this amount £6,195 was handed over to the General Hospital. These are among the items of the year noted now that the year is over. The Festivals have made this splendid Institution. Meanwhile the Queen's Hospital is not forgotten. The body of working men who some time ago began a movement to raise funds for the extension of the building and an increase in its accommodation for patients have just held a meeting with the view of taking their employers into co-operation with them. Workmen and masters patronise each other amiably in the matter, and the project goes on swimmingly. But what will the mechanics earning good wages in many of our large towns say to a dictum of George Dawson propounded at this meeting? The Hospital, he says, is not for the benefit of men earning forty shillings a week! He speaks with scorn of the forty-shilling artisan coming to him for a ticket. If this is to be the provident doctrine taught by Mr. Dawson's new paper to the working men of the Midlands, we hope the journal will have a large circulation in the workshops.

In the town of Birmingham there are not less than fifty separate Mutual Improvement Societies. Hitherto they have moved in separate orbits, doing their work quite independently of each other, but now there is a scheme afoot for organising them into one great association, in which they will be united for general purposes while acting independently in the carrying out of their sectional and local objects. Not among those Mutual Improvement Societies is the Birmingham Secular Club, which boasts of a "Reformer's Library," in which are to be found "books not to be met with in any other library in the town." To this exceptional and curious collection of literature has Mr. John Stuart Mill just presented a copy of his works, consisting of sixteen volumes. For the information of strangers we may say that these will not form an addition to the list of books not to be found on the shelves of any other society. Birmingham is as well supplied with libraries as any provincial town in England, and there is hardly a book club in the place not furnished with the works of the author of "Representative Government." The members of the Secular Club may be further and specially congratulated on the presentation by Mr. Mill of his father's "Analysis of the Human Mind." It is a work that may prove serviceable to them in their investigations among their collection of exceptional works. The "Analysis" is a grand addition to the psychological science of this century. Curiously enough, among its admirers there is perhaps not one so ardent as Mr. John Stuart Mill, the leader of the advanced speculative thought of his day.

The Midland Counties are just now plunged deeply into an inquiry into the working of the "Truck System." In that region of democracy and theoretical class independence thousands of working men have been systematically robbed by their employers and have never rebelled. It is something extraordinary that the Trades Unions, which have gone beyond the bounds of reason, honesty, and humanity in seeking to achieve certain ends which they have deemed necessary to a proper regard for their own interests, should never have made a stand against the Truck System. This reduced their wages by a very large percentage. This, by consequence, increased their hours of labour. This alone was more injurious to them than anything against which their organisation has directed its efforts. The Trades Unions are self-condemned as useless by the fact that they have allowed the Truck System to go on unchecked. The commission is sitting almost daily at the Town Hall, Birmingham, and the Midland morning papers contain whole pages of the evidence.

The first trial of the cumulative vote has made an unpleasant impression upon a large political party in Birmingham, and a conference is proposed to be held on the subject. At the recent election of a School Board fourteen thousand supporters of the Educational League only managed to return six members to the Board, while ten thousand followers of the doctrines of the Union returned eight members. The result is easily accounted for. Fifteen members were to be elected. The League, wishing to have it all their own way, put up fifteen candidates; the Union, concentrating its efforts upon getting a large majority of votes on the Board, put up eight candidates, and carried them in. There is another and an ominous subject of complaint. It is contended that the parochial organisation of the Church of England was largely instrumental in the result of the election. The League will, however, probably find it hard to convince the public opinion of the country that they suffered injustice either at the hand of the cumulative vote or by reason of parochial organisation. Had they put up fewer candidates they would have secured a majority.

The chairman of the Birmingham School Board, Mr. Sargant, has published a volume of essays, in one of which he proffers several powerful arguments and examples against the system of trial by juries of uneducated men. Another paper is entitled "Lies of Statistics," in which he points out many sources of fallacy in the use we make of our statisticss of population, deaths, offences, and the like.

The attempt to follow the example of Liverpool and to elect a School Board without a contest is not very successful. At Dudley an elaborately concocted coalition has failed. The Town Council and the clergymen and ministers of the town met and nominated the necessary eleven, whom they asked the ratepayers to elect; but the ratepayers have not proved complaisant, and six others have been nominated to withstand the onslaught of the eleven. It is estimated that new schools will have to be erected in Dudley, at a cost of not less than £14,000. The School Board election will be held on the 17th instant.

The borough of Sutton Coldfield, which may be almost described as a part of modern Birmingham, still rejoices in an old-fashioned self-elected corporation. There is a movement afoot to reform the venerable body.

It is feared that Mr. John Bright will not be well enough to address the electors of Birmingham on the 30th inst. at a meeting called for the purpose of bringing the members for the borough and the electors together.

Birmingham is always well provided with public amusements. At the Masonic Hall are to be heard this Christmas time the Tyrolese Singers, whose concerts are charming and popular. Bell's Hippodrome has pitched its tent in the great village, and is drawing immense crowds. The well-known and favourite travelling company of Christy's Minstrels, known as the Mathews Brothers, occupy the Exchange Assembly Rooms, and are giving concerts to crowded houses seven or eight times a week. Of the pantomimes at the Theatre Royal and the Prince of Wales' Theatre we spoke in deservedly high terms of praise last week. Both are remarkably successful. Of Mackney, it is enough to say that he is at Birmingham.

Amongst the visitors staying at the Great Western Hotel, Birmingham, during the week, are, Mr. Prendergast, Colonel Fane, the Misses Fane, Mr. A. Kasarinoff, Captain Majendie, R.A., Mr. Howard Paul and party, Mr. J. B. Cooper, Mr. F. R. Houghton, Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie, Mr. H. Jackson, Mr. Ludlow, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd and family, Miss Johnstone, Captain Macdougal, Hon. J. Petre, Mr. Walter Robinson, Rev. R. Johnstone, Mr. Dykes, Lieut. Wodehouse, Mr. E. Mancur, Captain Moore, Mr. and Mrs. T. Powell.

### BIRTH.

On the 2nd inst., at 23, Ampthill-square, London, N.W., the wife of Mr. C. T. Wrightson, of a son.

Patent Teeth on Soft Gums.—Mr. William J. Watson, Surgeon Dentist, 16, Newhall-street, Birmingham, begs to inform the inhabitants of the Midland Counties, that he is the SOLE INVENTOR and DISCOVERER of the art of fixing PATENT TEETH on SOFT GUMS, and he being the actual Maker is enabled to supply Teeth *at about one-third the usual charges*. Single Teeth from 3s. 6d. each; Sets from £2 10s., including all charges. Perfectly fitted at one visit. Attendance daily from nine a.m. till eight p.m. Consultation free. [164

The Present Season.—Crichley, Wilde, and Co. are now showing a large section of their Patent Air Warmers; also, the Patent Terra-Cotta Gas Stove, which is entirely free from smoke or smell. New pattern Hot-Air Stoves for Halls, panelled with Encaustic Tiles. Churches, Mansions, Shops, &c., heated on the most approved principles. Show Rooms, 5, 6, and 6½, Cannon-street. Works, Bordesley. [119

## THE SINKING OF BRITISH SHIPS BY THE PRUSSIANS.

Thirty-nine of the crews of the seven British ships sunk in the Seine by the Prussians have arrived at the Sailors' Home in Wellclose-square, where they have been ordered to remain by the Board of Trade, pending official proceedings.

Mr. William Mingay, mate of the Sylph, and the mate of the Alice, both of Sunderland, have made statements detailing the circumstances attending the seizure of their vessels. From their statements it would appear that a French gunboat going up the Seine, sighted a Prussian detachment advancing along the banks, and fired into them, killing 150. This caused a certain commotion among the Prussians, and it was, no doubt, with a view to put a stop to the movements of the gunboat in the river, that the Prussians resolved to sacrifice the British ships. The manner in which the Prussians took possession of the Sylph is described by Mr. Mingay as follows:—

The Sylph was at Rouen on Saturday week, in the river, when a detachment of about 30 or 40 Prussian soldiers, headed by an officer, boarded her from a steam tug. The Sylph had discharged her cargo of coals, and was taking in ballast. The men had, unfortunately for themselves, as it ultimately turned out, been paid. The Prussian officer addressed Captain Ramsdale, the owner of the vessel, and the mate in a mixture of French and English. Striking his hand on the companion ladder, he said, "Me must have your ship!" Captain Ramsdale, pointing to the flag, said, "You shall not have my ship—it is an English ship!" The Prussian officer, whose men had at once proceeded to cut the ropes that tied her to her anchor, roared out, "Me don't care if she is English, or French, or Dutch, or Norwegian; me want her to *couler* in the river." He repeated the French word *couler* (to sink) several times, and announced his intention to seize the brigantine whether its captain would permit him or not. During this animated altercation the utmost confusion prevailed on board, the soldiers proceeding to knock holes in the bottom of the vessel. The captain cried out to the officer, "If you want my ship, pay me the £2,000 she's worth." "Yes," said the officer, "I will."

He then produced a printed form, and, calling for pen and ink, pointed to a vacant place on it, and directed the captain to fill it in, which he did. The form seemed to be an order on the Prussian Government. During the time this paper was being filled up, the sailors were trying to save what they could of clothes and money, but without much success, for in less than ten minutes from the boarding of the vessel the sailors were hurried over the sides into a boat and cut adrift. A good deal of their clothing was left on board. The officer stepped on to the tug, leaving some soldiers in charge of the Sylph; these men hauled down the British flag (they had previously ordered the captain to do so, but he had refused), and they trampled on it and wiped their feet on it, making remarks as they did so in German. They then floated her down the river. They did not sink her immediately—in fact, not till the next morning—but, getting drunk on the ship's stores, set her partially on fire.

Though the captain had received a paper promising him £2,000 for his ship, the sailors had received no compensation for their losses. When they got on shore at Rouen they reported themselves to the British Consul, who went to the Prussian authorities and remonstrated. Through his exertions two omnibuses were procured, and the men were despatched *en route* for Dieppe. When they got to Colbec, between twelve and one at night, they were stopped in the bitter cold, the snow lying thick on the ground, by a body of Prussian soldiers, who ordered them to get down.

Presenting the points of their bayonets, and rudely vociferating, they directed the sailors to undo their bundles. The mate distinctly affirms that the Prussians took not only the men's tobacco, but part of their clothing, and even their money; he himself was robbed of several pounds' worth of clothes as well as his wages. The other men were likewise pillaged. One unfortunate sailor, while being compelled to lower down some luggage from the top of the vehicle for the Prussians to overhaul, slipped, and, falling to the ground, got concussion of the brain. He had to be left behind at Colbec. Ultimately, they were allowed to resume their journey. When they arrived at Dieppe, the consul and the English chaplain received them very kindly, and gave them 1s. each to buy their dinners with at Newhaven. Having been deprived by the Prussians of nearly everything they possessed, the poor men had nothing to eat from the time they arrived at Newhaven until their arrival in London. Thus they lost not only their employment, but all their wages and their clothes.

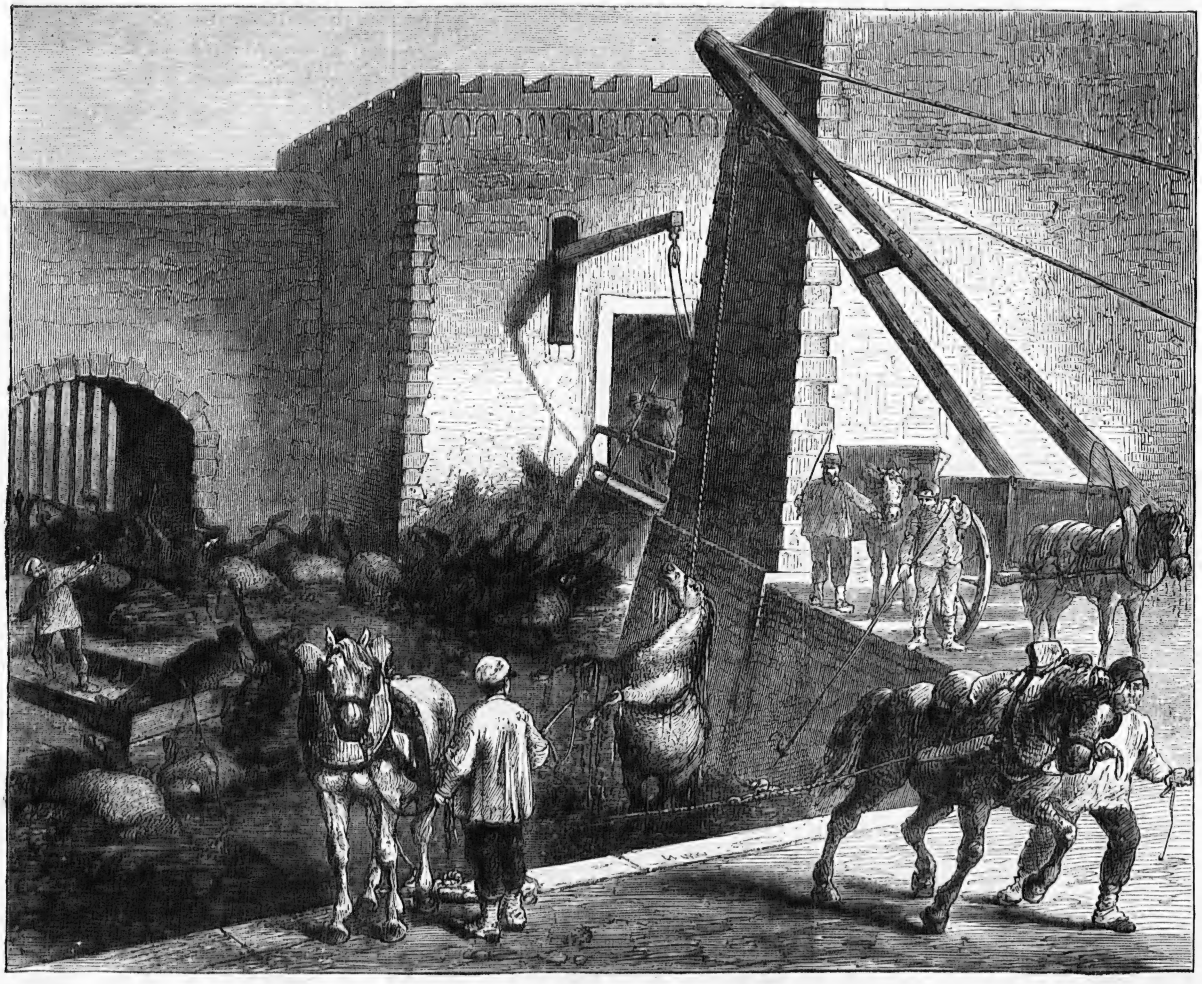
The mate of the Alice—which is one of the six ships sunk on the 21st of December—states that the vessels were seized in the most peremptory manner, and the crews put ashore, where they had to remain exposed to the bitter cold and to the rain, which wetted them through, for eleven or twelve hours. Those vessels were sunk at once, but as they were not sufficient to block the passage of the river entirely to the satisfaction of the Prussians, the Sylph was subsequently seized, and after her the Paragon.

When the crews arrived in London, they went to the Home Office, and were sent thence to the office of the Registrar-General of Seamen. Most of them, being married men, were anxious to get to their families, but Mr. Mayo sent an officer with them to the Sailors' Home, where they have been requested to stay, pending the action of the Government.

"I had been afflicted nine years with rheumatism and griping pains all over my body, so as to be unable to work, and had been confined to my bed several weeks, when I heard of Perry Davis's Pain Killer, and sent for a bottle. I commenced using it immediately, and within twelve hours was free from pain and able to go downstairs, and I believe it will eventually quite restore the use of my paralysed limbs.—George Hewson, Warrington, Aug. 15, 1867."—To P. Davis and Son, London, W. C.

## DEAD HORSES AT METZ.

THESE are the horses which fell in battle or died of their wounds. The ditch outside the walls of Metz was in places full of the decaying corpses of these poor beasts when the army of Bazaine capitulated, and scores and hundreds were seen from time to time floating down the Moselle. The state of the town ditches promised to breed a pestilence, and the Germans found it necessary to provide a remedy. It was no easy task to raise these almost numberless dead animals out of the ditches up the steep walls round the fortifications, and rather cumbrous machinery had to be brought into requisition. Our engraving shows the nature of the unenviable work in which the peasantry of France, acting under orders of Prussian officers, were engaged for some time after hostilities had ceased in the vicinity of Metz. Our cut is from a fine drawing by Mr. Elliot. The miserable work in the back-ground is cleverly put in, and the contrast of life and death is admirably portrayed in the working horses on the walls and the bloated dead bodies being dragged out of the water.



DEAD HORSES IN THE MOAT UNDER THE WALLS OF METZ.

FORTITUDE OF PARIS.—One of the *Daily News* Special Correspondents in Paris says that owing to the intense severity of the weather no fewer than fifty sentinels have been frozen to death at the outposts, and that there are more than 1,200 cases of severe frost-bite in the military hospitals, many of which cases are likely to prove fatal. The sufferings of the people are also very great. Typhoid fever is on the increase, especially among the families from the suburbs, who are huddled together in close rooms amid a stifling atmosphere that breeds pestilence. There had been 172 deaths from bronchitis in the previous week, and 147 from pneumonia. Fuel was running short. There was no coal, and the supply of firewood was so small that it had been resolved to cut down all the trees in and about the city. But little other food was left than bread and horse flesh. With all this there was not a murmur to be heard. The people submit to their hard fate, to cold and hunger, and long, dark nights, void of amusement, with a cheerfulness which is sublime. They make no complaints about their miseries, and accept them with an unpretending fortitude which no people in the world could surpass.

IT is stated that Miss E. Garrett, M.D., member of the London School Board, will shortly be married to Mr. James G. S. Anderson, of London and Morpeth. This gentleman took an active part in Miss Garrett's election.

IT is in contemplation to establish a bishopric at Heligoland for the scattered congregations in the North of Europe.

A VESSEL was seen to strike on the southern part of Caistor Shoal on Saturday, and to burn signal lights. The weather was very cold, and there was a heavy sea on the beach at the time. The Boys lifeboat, of the National Lifeboat Institution, anchored at Caistor, was launched with all speed, and found that she was the brig Thomas and Joseph, of South Shields, bound to that port from Yarmouth in ballast, and having on board a crew of eight men, besides the mate's wife and child, all of whom were rescued and brought safely to land by the lifeboat. The breakers were heavy all along the shore, and no boat but the lifeboat could have rescued the crew, except with the greatest hazard.

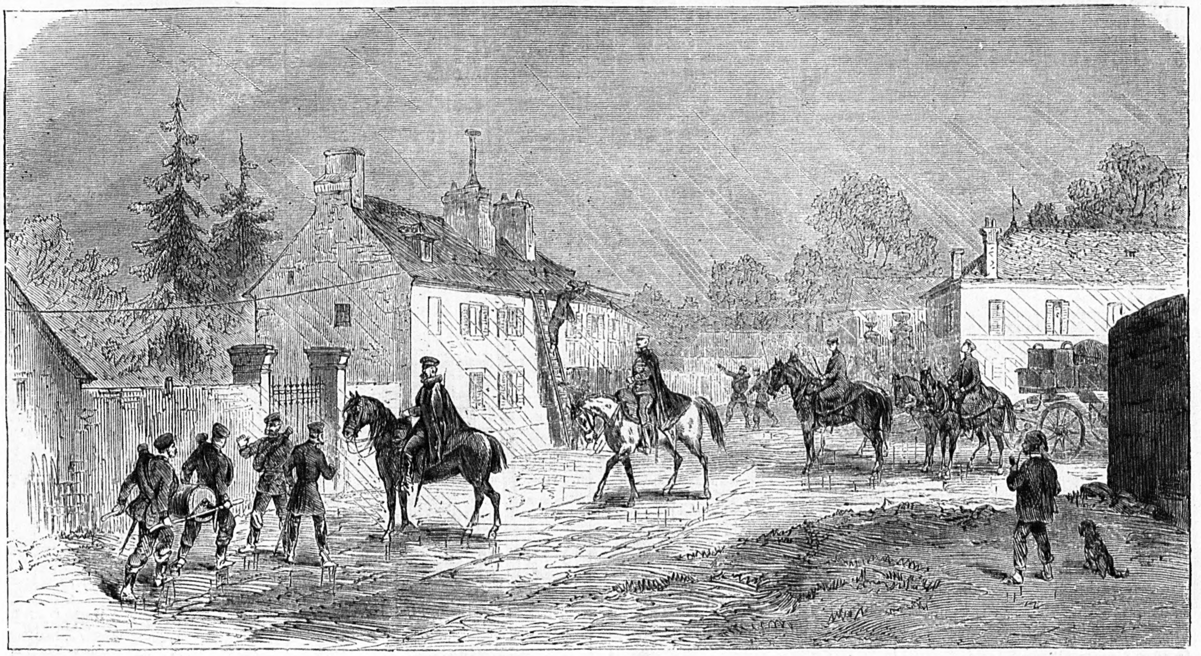
THE MONT CENIS TUNNEL.—The completion of the Mont Cenis tunnel is a great triumph of engineering art. It is the longest tunnel, so far as we know, that has been driven from the opposite ends with the two borings meeting with precision. From the great height of superincumbent matter over the tunnel, it was impossible to sink shafts according to the ordinary mode, so that the ventilation had to be effected from the two ends of the tunnel. The boring machines were put to work in 1861. The tunnel is over 13,000 yards, or about $7\frac{3}{4}$ miles in length, and is 26 feet 3 inches wide by 19 feet 9 inches high, which affords space for two lines of rails. The excavations were for nearly two-thirds of the distance through schist, the remainder being through limestone and very hard quartz, which caused great trouble, and occupied a comparatively long period, particularly during the latter portion of the time employed. The perforating machinery was skilfully contrived, and very beautiful in operation, being a combination of hydraulic and pneumatic power. Large reservoirs, considerably higher than the entrances to the tunnel, collected water from the streamlets and from rainfall on the Italian side. The water was sent down to a lower level by large iron pipes, supplying in the descent the power required for the boring operations; the water pressure was equal to 26ft. perpendicular. At Fourneaux we have seen the beautifully-contrived air compressing machines, the aerometers and receivers. The action of the water (pumped up from the arc) upon the aerometers, set the compressors to work. These compressed the air so that it exercised a pressure of 96lb. on the squre inch. The compressed air worked the excavating machines, to which it was conveyed by strong 8-inch iron pipes. The excavating machine took out a drift 12ft. wide by 8ft. high; the remainder of the work was executed by blasting, or hand-labour in the ordinary methods. The boring machine was mounted upon wheels, and was forwarded upon a tramway. It had ten perforators, acted upon by two flexible tubes, the one conveying compressed air and the other water. The jumpers each made its own hole, and had a rapid to-and-fro motion, and change of angle by the action of the power applied. The jumpers only bored for blasting, and when the rock was ready, the boring machine was withdrawn, secured behind folding-doors, and the fuse was lighted. A blast of compressed air was then sent in to clear the smoke and sweeten the tunnel, and the miners proceeded to finish, with their picks, what the boring machine had so well begun for them.—*Builder*.

TOBACCO AND POLITICIANS.—*Cope's Tobacco Plant* has a pleasant article on the smoke room of the House of Commons. The writer says Mr. Bright is a genial smoker. The pleasantest sallies in the smoke-room are made by the Right Honourable the President of the Board of Trade; and we have no doubt that he regards with satisfaction that branch of trade which is concerned with the importation of tobacco. The member who smokes in a wise way is always a pacific and accessible creature. It would be impossible that Mr. Ayrton could give so much disquietude to everybody who approaches him, if he had a talent for smoking. A deputation who wait on Mr. Lowe would do well to invite the Chancellor of the Exchequer to take a cigar with them before entering upon business, or to invite him to name a time to receive them immediately after he had that advantage. If space permitted, it would be possible, with some show of truth and fact, to trace the influence of tobacco on politics, and especially on the courtesies of administration. If we were to engage an Asmodeus to make a personal inspection of Ministerial apartments, we have no doubt it might be shown that some of the pleasantest measures concocted by Ministers had their origin in chambers fragrant with the fumes of the pacific and mind-composing cigar.

THE REVENUE.—The revenue returns for the quarter and the year ending the 31st of December were published yesterday. The gross receipts for the quarter were £15,929,182, and for the year £70,715,374. On the quarter there is a net decrease of £602,520, and on the year a net increase of £553,581. The items of decrease during the past quarter are £337,000 in customs; £573,000 in taxes; and £305,000 in property tax. Among the items of increase are—excise, £146,000; stamps, £55,000; Post Office, £20,000; Telegraph service, £16,000; and miscellaneous, £229,480. The total charge on the Consolidated Fund is £10,113,471, of which £6,077,296 was interest on the permanent debt.

THE Speaker's Warrant for the election to the vacancy in Durham caused by Mr. Davison's acceptance of the post of Judge Advocate-General has been issued. Mr. Davison will probably be re-elected unopposed.

The new pebble powder is to be used in the trial of the 35-ton gun. It is said to give a greater velocity with less strain.



GERMAN FIELD TELEGRAPH WORKS AT GRAND-TREMBLAY.

## GRAND-TREMBLAY.

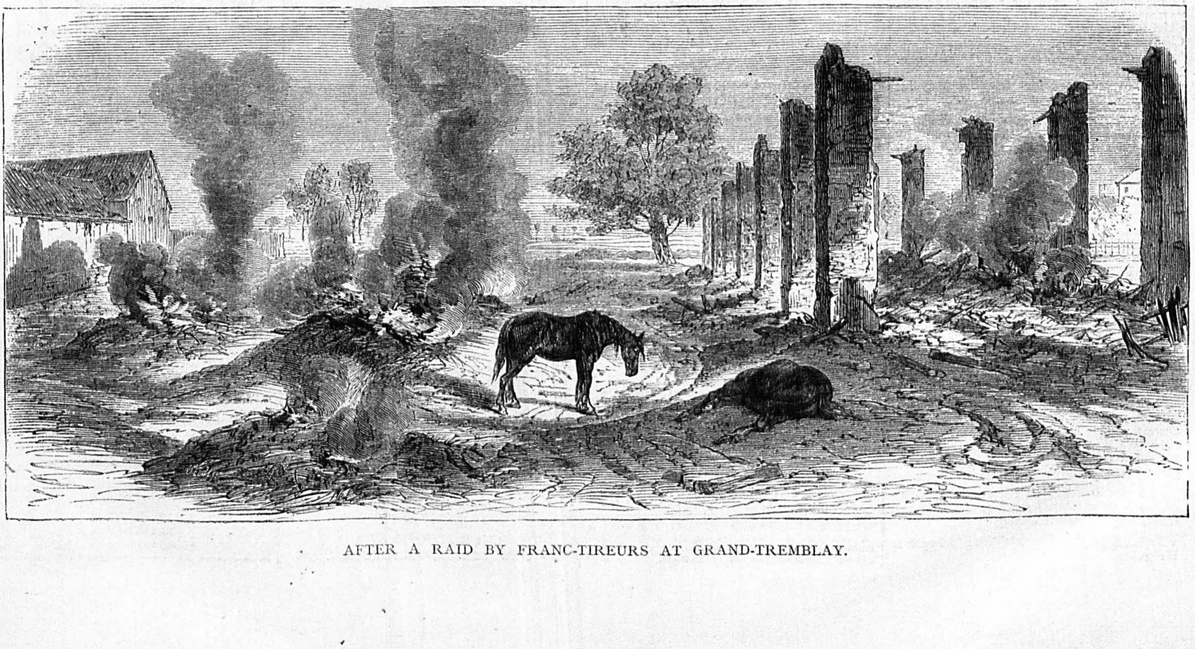
ON another page we have given a picture of a farm-yard at Grand-Tremblay, with a few remarks upon the establishment of Saxon head-quarters in that village. The two engravings on this page represent the same village under two different aspects. In the first is shown the operations connected with the arrangement of a military field-telegraph. The sketch, by Herr A. Beck, a German artist, was taken on a rainy day, when the village was seen under disadvantage; but it was to be viewed not long after under much less favourable circumstances. A time came when the Saxons found it advisable to remove their head-quarters elsewhere, and their departure was the signal for an attack on the village by Franc-tireurs, who deemed it best to render Grand-Tremblay unfit to afford shelter in future to the enemies of France. So they burnt the village to ashes. Our second sketch on this page depicts the scene of the still smoking ruins; these are the dread necessities of war. The soldiers of France have been constrained to destroy the results of the industry of generations of their countrymen in order to give a bad welcome to the foes of France. When the war is over people will throng in thousands to look upon the ruins of Grand-Tremblay, and discuss the doings of the Franc-tireurs. Let us hope that the day is not far distant when the villages round Paris shall be rebuilt, and give shelter once again to the honest peasantry of France.

THE LATE SIR HENRY DURAND.—By the death of Sir Henry Durand India has lost one of her ablest men. Sir Henry was educated at Addiscombe, and was formerly a major-general in the Bengal Engineers. He fought in the Affghanistan, Gwalior, Punjaub, and mutiny campaigns. He was subsequently appointed Secretary of the Foreign Department, to the Government of India, and afterwards fifth ordinary member of the Council of the Governor-General. For his distinguished services in the field and in council he was made first a C.B., and then a K.C.S.I. Last year, when Sir Donald Macleod retired on completing his term of office, Sir Henry was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjaub. Being a man of great energy, he resolved to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the vast province he had been called upon to rule, and about six weeks ago he commenced a very extended tour, beginning at the most northern point of our Indian Empire, Peshawur, and intending to march down the frontier to Kurrachee. He was accompanied by Mr. Thurton, secretary to the Government, and by the leading officials. Letters received in England by the last mail spoke of the satisfactory nature of the expedition so far. His sudden death by a fall from an elephant on New Year's-day will be greatly regretted in both India and this country. It will necessarily put an end to the expedition, from which important political results might have followed. Sir Henry was born in 1812, and married, for the second time, the widow of Mr. Polehampton, the well-known chaplain at Lucknow during the mutiny. By the death of Sir Henry Durand the Lieutenant-Governorship of the Punjaub becomes vacant, almost simultaneously with those of Bengal and Madras. The former has fallen vacant through the resignation, after a very brief tenure, of Sir William Grey, who is understood to have not been in perfect accord with the Viceroy, Lord Mayo. Madras becomes vacant in a few weeks, when Lord Napier's five years' term of office expires. Mr. George Campbell has been appointed to Bengal. No successor to Lord Napier has yet been announced.

AT the Exeter quarter sessions on Monday, a juryman, James Hamlin, said he should refuse to be sworn. He had been on the jury almost every sessions for the last four years, and on one occasion for four days. He was a working man with a wife and six children, and if he could not keep his fingers moving he could not maintain them. If he was served in that way he must get his living by stealing. After some discussion he and another submitted to be sworn once more.

DR. M. B. HALE, bishop of Perth, Western Australia, has intimated his intention of resigning his see, to which he was consecrated in 1856. The Bishopric of Perth is supported by the interest of £4,000 granted by the Colonial Bishoprics Fund, and invested in the colony.

AT Moretonhampstead a mason's labourer has been fined £50 for having a private still.



AFTER A RAID BY FRANC-TIREURS AT GRAND-TREMBLAY.

# INSULT TO AN ENGLISH CONSUL'S WIFE PROMPTLY PUNISHED.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Levant Herald* writes from Beyrout on Nov. 28 as follows—"I promised you in my last some details of an affair which took place at Tebadani, in the Anti-Lebanon, the summer retreat of the English consul at Damascus, from whose mouth I gleaned these facts. It contains as usual two rival families—local Capulets and Montagues. The Beit-el-Tells, poor, honest, and quiet, have been long favourites with English officials. The Beit-el-Bega, rich upstarts, oppress the poor, kill their mules, break orchards and vineyards, bribe liberally, and are the *betes noires* of the neighbourhood, which bears the yoke through fear. As the consul's wife was riding through the village, one of the Begs sat down on the road in her way, whilst the other people stood up and saluted her, and, smoking his cigarette and spitting, said to the crowd, 'What fools are you Fellaheen to salute this woman! See how I will treat her when she passes.' He was ordered to rise, and replied, 'No, I will not! What does this woman want? Will you all go away, or shall I kill her and you? I want to raise the devil to-day. Let her salute me.' The answer was a sound horse-whipping, which he deserved. His friends gathered round him, shouting, 'Pull her off her horse, follow her with guns and sticks; if any English come here we will kill them!' The only attendants the lady had were terrified natives. At this juncture her own servant, a lad, rode up, and, thinking his mistress was attacked, fired his carbine without orders, but happily the bullet found its billet in a wall. A report was at once sent to the consul at Damascus, and the *vali* lost not a moment in sending 30 zaptieth under the Bimbashi Ismail Bey and M. Hanna Shalhoab, an officer of the divan, with orders to punish to the fullest extent such a gratuitous outrage upon an English lady. These two officials did their duty thoroughly, made a *proces verbal* of the affair, and carried 11 offenders to the common gaol at Damascus. The Beit-el-Beg has had the benefit of a month in limbo, and probably they will keep the peace for many a long year."

* * *

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.—The following is a copy of the report addressed by the Chief Constable for Somersetshire to the Executive Committee on the state of the foot and mouth disease in that county during the past quarter:—"Chief Constable's Office, Glastonbury, Jan. 2, 1871. Sir,—I have the honour to forward through you for the information of the Executive Committee a return showing the number of fresh outbreaks of foot and mouth disease and sheep scab which have occurred within the county since the last quarter sessions. On referring to this document you will observe that there were 1,391 fresh outbreaks of foot and mouth disease, and the number of animals affected were as follows:—376 bulls, 21,274 cows, 1,501 oxen, 5,005 heifers, 2,714 calves, 3,458 pigs, 2,495 sheep, making a total of 36,823. Of these 2 bulls died, 74 cows, 1 ox, 19 heifers, 42 calves, and 117 pigs. There were 30 outbreaks of sheep scab, and 735 animals affected, and of these only one died. I have compared the present return with the one furnished to you at the last sessions, and I am sure it will be a satisfaction to your committee to learn that there has been a considerable decrease in the number of animals affected with foot and mouth disease during this quarter. At the October sessions I reported that there had been 44,205 animals diseased, and for the present quarter 36,823, showing a decrease of 7,382. The death rate in proportion to numbers is about the same. As regards sheep scab there were 735 animals affected during the quarter, as compared with only nine in the preceding quarter. I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant, VALENTINE GOOLD, Chief Inspector and Chief Constable. To the Chairman of the Executive Committee."

THE *Exeter Gazette* says that the Bishop of Mauritius has had a severe attack of bronchitis, which has prevented him from fulfilling his engagements to preach at Barnstaple.

MR. W. A. F. AMHURST, of Dodlington-hall, Brandon, is spoken of as the Conservative candidate for West Norfolk, and Sir W. Ffolkes, Bart., in the Liberal interest.

IT is announced that Deptford Dockyard is now to be utilised for the purposes of a foreign cattle market, the Corporation being the owners.

H.M.S. GRASSHOPPER, which has been appointed to protect British residents at Newchwang during the winter, reached that port on the 8th of November, to the great satisfaction of foreigners and the immediate improvement of trade.

A SCHOOL BOARD for Oldham has just been elected without a contest. Of the thirteen members six have been chosen by the unsectarian party, six by the church of the denominational party, and one by the Roman Catholics. Two of the members have been put in to represent the working-class interest.

IT is pretended (says the *Globe*) that Mr. Otway's resignation is owing to ill-health, arising from the severe strain which has been experienced at the Foreign Office for several months past.

A NEW French Mail Service is being organised. Steamers will run between Calais and Cherbourg every alternate day.

IT is contemplated to establish a bishopric at Heligoland.

NEW Year's Day was commenced in St. Ouen's Church, Jersey, by a squabble respecting the playing of the organ. The churchwarden of the parish had placed a lock on the instrument to prevent its being played, pending the settlement of some dispute concerning it. The rector had ordered the lock to be removed, and on the organist commencing to play on Sunday morning, the churchwarden prevented the "blower" from proceeding, and effectually stopped the playing. After a protest from the rector the service proceeded without the aid of the organ.

A LANDSLIP at Mevagissey yesterday morning caused from 500 to 700 tons of rock to fall into a ship-building yard. Fortunately the men were away.

THEATRE ROYAL, BIRMINGHAM,
Under the Management of Mr. MERCER H. SIMPSON.

Mr. SIMPSON has the pleasure of informing his friends and the public that his Establishment

WAS OPENED ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 26TH,
WHEN THE
GRAND COMIC PANTOMIME, entitled
DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT,
Written by Mr. C. MILLWARD,

Was produced with the same completeness and perfection which have always characterised the Pantomimes of this Theatre. The Scenery is most beautiful and brilliant, Mr. Simpson having been fortunate enough to secure the services of that eminent artist, Mr. Charles Smithers. The Magnificent Dresses, Elaborate Appointments and Properties, are of the most perfect description. Mr. Fred. W. Humphreys, with his usual ability, has musically arranged the Pantomime, while the never weary Stage Manager, Mr. J. C. Smith, has for weeks rehearsed the numerous Company engaged.

Miss Maria Longman, Miss Alice Dodd, Mr. Walter Searle, Mr. Henry Wright, and the Alexander Family (seven in number) are specially engaged, and will appear in addition to the clever artistes, Mr. E. V. Sinclair, Mr. Wyke Moore, Mr. T. A. Palmer, Mr. J. Cumberland, Miss Eliza Gordon, Miss J. Gordon, and Miss Madge Antoinette.

MORNING PERFORMANCES every Thursday until further notice. Books of Pantomime, 2d.

Box Office open from Eleven until Three o'clock. Lower Boxes, 3s.; Upper Boxes, 2s.; Pit, 1s.; Gallery, 6d. No Half Price. Doors open at 6.30; commence at 7 o'clock. [44

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.
Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JAMES RODGERS.

BRILLIANT SUCCESS OF THE NEW GORGEOUS CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME.

CROWDED HOUSES! DELIGHTED AUDIENCES!

The Grand Ballet de Piquance by a Corps of 100 Trained Children. Another great triumph, receiving nightly *three double encores*.

The new and magnificent Scenery by Mr. R. M. Hyde, Mr. Evans, and Assistants, pronounced by the Public and Press of Birmingham to far surpass anything ever placed before on this Stage.

The costly and gorgeous Dresses by Miss Green and Assistants. The admiration of all!

NOTICE.—GRAND MID-DAY PERFORMANCES of the PANTOMIME, EVERY THURSDAY, till further notice, at Two o'clock.

TO-NIGHT (SATURDAY), Jan. 7th, and Every Evening, at Seven o'clock,
THE CAPTAIN'S NOT AMISS.
After which the New Gorgeous Pantomime of
JACK AND THE BEAN STALK;
OR, HARLEQUIN OLD DAME TROT AND HER KOMICAL KAT,
Jack ..................................Miss ROBERTHA ERSKINE.
Supported by a Powerful Cast.

Mdlle. ERNESTINE, Columbine; Mr. SYDNEY STEVENS, Harlequin; Mr. F. SMITH, Pantaloon; and the great Clown, Mr. HARRY HEMMING.

Box Office open from Eleven to Three.

TOWN HALL, BIRMINGHAM,
MONDAY, JANUARY 9TH, 1871.
One Night only of the Original and Inimitable
MR. E. W. MACKNEY,
The greatest delineator of Negro Character in the World,
Who will be assisted by
MADAME WELLS,
Of the Crystal Palace, Exeter Hall, and St James' Hall Concerts.

Miss Ida Bertram, of the London Concerts, Mr. Henry Nicholson, the eminent Solo Flautist, and Mr. John Caulfield, R.A.M., Solo Pianist and Accompanist.

Admission.—Reserved Stalls, 2s. each; Floor, 1s.; Great Gallery, 6d.

Tickets may be obtained at the principal Music Warehouses, Mr. Bryan's, and at the Ticket Office.

To commence at 8. [207

BELL'S HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS,
*CARR'S LANE.*

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MID-DAY PERFORMANCES THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS, AT TWO. [206

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FAMILY SHOE WAREHOUSE,
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J. HILLMAN, Proprietor.

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MANUFACTURERS & WAREHOUSEMEN.
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N.B.—The new and Spacious Show-rooms are now open. Inspection is invited. [782

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AT MR. RUSSELL'S MUSIC WAREHOUSE,
25, BENNETT'S HILL, BIRMINGHAM.
NEW MUSIC AT HALF-PRICE. [118

REMOVAL.
THOMAS UNDERWOOD,
LITHOGRAPHER AND STATIONER,
FROM CARR'S LANE,
*TO 42, CASTLE-STREET,*
(Two Doors from High-street.) [137

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5/-
3 lb
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6 lb
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Of Everlasting
ARTIFICIAL TEETH,
BY
MR. LYONS, SURGEON DENTIST,
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FROM 3s. 6d. A TOOTH. [63

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WILLCOX AND GIBBS' SILENT SEWING MACHINE.

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BEFORE
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Machines on Hire.
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NORTH JOHN STREET, LIVERPOOL.

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Fire Revenue
£483,180
Life Premiums
£213,420
Accumulated Funds,
£1,850,000.

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From a quinquennial valuation of the entire Life Liabilities made as at 31st December, 1869, by independent Actuaries at 3 per cent. nett premiums, the Life Assets showed a

Surplus over Liabilities of £249,956,

Enabling the Directors to declare a
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On each sum assured for the five years, and to still hold in reserve all profits accrued on Annuities and Endowments.

EXTRACT FROM LAST ANNUAL REPORT.

After payment of Dividend and Bonuses, the FUNDS of the Company stand as follows:—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Capital paid up | £289,095 | 0 | 0 |
| Reserve Fund, and Profit and Loss Account | 286,925 | 10 | 0 |
| Life Assurance Funds | 1,173,401 | 9 | 1 |

The Company is now prepared to Grant Insurances on the Buildings of PRIVATE DWELLINGS and their CONTENTS at the following scale of charges:

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BIRMINGHAM. [445
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THE PUBLIC,
It is hoped, will discriminate between
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which is prepared solely from Maize—Indian Corn,
AND
CHEAP QUALITIES BEARING A FALSE NAME,
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"In peace love tunes the shepherd's reed,
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LOVE-LORNE
"Love rules the court, the camp, the grove,
E'en conquerors feel the power of love."
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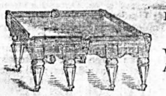

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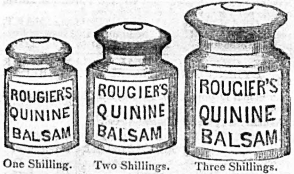

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THE PUBLIC ARE CAUTIONED AGAINST
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LUNCHEON BAR,
UNION PASSAGE, BIRMINGHAM. [754

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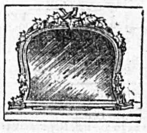

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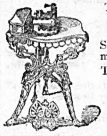

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LISTS FREE. [181
WHIGHT & MANN, 143, Holborn Hill, London.

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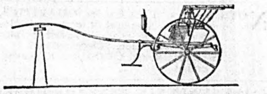

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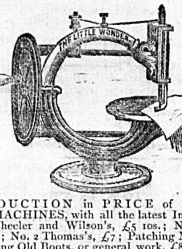
BOTH SIDES ALIKE, £3 3s.



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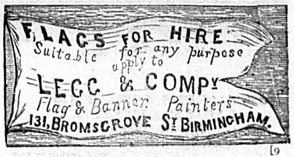

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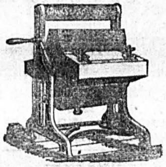

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The finest Fabrics uninjured, WASHES IN EIGHT MINUTES, and with this STAR MACHINE it has been proved that a FORTNIGHT'S WASHING for SIX PERSONS can be completed at a COST OF ONLY 3d., half-a-pound each of Soap and Soda being all that is requisite. ECONOMICAL, therefore Valuable in every Household, small or large.

PRICES FROM £3 10s.
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(Near the British Museum.) [64

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CANTHARIDINE
RESTORATIVE
FOR THE HAIR
Prepared by
H. PEDLEY, FAMILY CHEMIST
29, *HORSEFAIR, BIRMINGHAM.*
In 1s. and 2s. 6d. Bottles. [88

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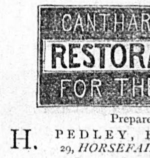

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CAMBRIDGE-STREET,
*BIRMINGHAM.*
Open daily for Ladies and Gentlemen (Sundays excepted) from 8 a.m. till 8 p.m.
LIST OF TERMS ON APPLICATION.

N.B.—The only Establishment in the Midland Counties where you can have such a variety of Baths for the purposes of luxury and health.

JAMES MELLING, *Proprietor.*
MISS MELLING, *Superintendent of the Ladies' Department.* [909

VELVETEENS.
VELVETEENS.
VELVETEENS.

The Patent Moleskin Lyons-Finish Velveteens in Black and Colours, to be obtained only at BAKER and CRISP'S, from 17s. 6d. Full Dress. Patterns free.

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WINTER DRESSES.
Bright Satin Cloths, every Shade, equal to Silk, 10s. 9d. to 25s. Dress.
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Wool and Silk Serges, 7s. 11d. to 29s. 6d. Full Dress, Wool and Silk Repps, Roubaix and Coutil Cloths, 7s. 11d. to 29s. 6d. Full Dress.

SILK REPPS, very best quality, 27s. 6d.
Lorraine and Alsace Cloths,
Cashmere and Habit Cloths,
Diagonal and Honeycomb Cloths,
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6s. 11d. to 29s. 6d. Full Dress.

WINTER DRESSES.—A Speciality.—London Cords, 10s. 6d. and 15s. Kirtle Tartans, Acon Tweeds, Willow Cords and Clan Repps, Heather Tweeds, and Tullochgorum Costume Cloths, 8s. 9d. to 25s.

FRENCH MERINOS. — Seventy-nine Shades of Colour, 1s. 9d. per yard; very best, 2s. 6d.
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NOTICE.—1,300 PIECES for CHARITIES, of good wide Aberdeen Winceys and Monks-Eleigh Linseys, at 25s., 27s., and 35s. piece of 54 to 60 yards each. Piece sent for P.O. order to BAKER and CRISP, 198, Regent Street, London.

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The War Panic has enabled BAKER and CRISP to buy and now offer the most extraordinary bargains ever seen in Black Lyons Silk Velvets,

viz., £2 14s. to 5 gs. Full Dress. [123

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THE NUTRITIOUS COCOA FOOD
FOR HORSES AND CATTLE.
COST, ONE HALFPENNY PER FEED.
SOLE MANUFACTURERS,
PALMER AND CO.,
39, *WILSON-STREET, FINSBURY, LONDON.*

Delivered free everywhere.

One Cwt., equal to 800 Feeds, for 34s.

Testimonials, with sample, sent free on application.

Consumers testify that this is the best and most economical Cattle Food to be procured, as, irrespective of its condimental properties, the ground work, *being Pure Cocoa,* is in itself good market value. [68

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REMINISCENCES OF MARK LEMON.
*Shortly, Cloth,* 5s.

WITH A SHOW IN THE NORTH By JOSEPH HATTON. Together with MARK LEMON'S LAST SONG, his Revised Text of Falstaff, and PORTRAIT IN COSTUME. Reprinted, with Additions, from the *Gentleman's Magazine.*

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(OPPOSITE SOCIETY OF ARTISTS.)
190] BIRMINGHAM.

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DRESS CAPS, CAPS FOR ELDERLY LADIES, SERVANTS' CAPS IN GREAT VARIETY.

THE HINKLEY KNITTING MACHINE.
THE LAMB KNITTING MACHINE.
SEWING MACHINES IN GENERAL.
WHEELER & WILSON COMPLETE £5 5s. 0d.

MANWARING AND ORRAH,
LATE
SCHOFIELD AND JORDAN,
16, *BULL-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.* [57

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NOTICE.

OFFICE for the RECOVERY of DEBTS, through the medium of the County Court, CHRIST CHURCH PASSAGE, New Street.

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LONDON. ESTABLISHED 1782.

Prompt and liberal Loss Settlements.
Insurances effected in all parts of the world.
610] GEO. W. LOVELL, *Secretary.*

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CHARLES REEVES
SWORD CUTLER, &c.,
20, *GEORGE-STREET, PARADE,*
BIRMINGHAM. [103

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ROYAL SOCIETY OF ARTISTS
*NEW-STREET.*
WILL FINALLY CLOSE ON JANUARY 14, 1871.

THE EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN DAILY,
From 10 till 5 o'clock;
AND EVERY EVENING,
From 7 till 10 o'clock.
ADMISSION - - TWOPENCE. [28

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MR. J. SWINSON,
DENTIST.
102, *NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.*
Hours, from 10 till 6. [80

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BORDER COUNTIES DOG AND POULTRY, PIGEON, AND CANARY SHOW.

PRESIDENT. — The LORD - LIEUTENANT of the Counties of Cumberland and Westmoreland.

THIS SHOW will be held on the 16th, 17th, and 18th of February, 1871, in the County Mews, CARLISLE, when £250 will be given in Money. Also, a large number of Cups and other valuable PRIZES.

Prize Lists and Entry Forms can be had on application on and after January 3rd, 1871.

Entries close, February 1st, 1871.

J. C. CARRICK, Hon. Sec.

OFFICES.—11, Bank Street, Carlisle. [204

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J. CREESE AND CO.,
LITHOGRAPHERS, ENGRAVERS, PRINTERS, EMBOSSERS,
WHOLESALE STATIONERS, &c.,

Most gratefully acknowledge the great and increasing patronage bestowed upon them during upwards of Nine years, and respectfully inform their friends that they have recently re-arranged their premises, and laid down Steam Machinery, to enable them to execute orders with greater promptitude.

*CASTLE-ST., and YORK-PASSAGE (High-st.), BIRMINGHAM.* [195

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QUINN AND SON,
*ADVERTISING CONTRACTORS,*
15, TYTHING-STREET, WORCESTER.

All the protected private Stations, Walls, Boards, and Hoardings. Charges strictly moderate. Established 1825. [601

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TO CLEAN AND PRESERVE THE TEETH, USE HAMPSON'S

FLUODENTINE, OR LIQUID DENTRIFICE. Three or four drops on the moistened brush is sufficient for one application. It cleanses the enamel, hardens the gums, and sweetens the breath. Invaluable to Smokers. See Dr. Hassall's Report and Medical Testimonials. Sold in bottles at 1s. 6d., 3s., and 5s. each, by Chemists and Perfumers generally, and by R. HAMPSON, Chemist, 63, Piccadilly, Manchester.

BIRMINGHAM AGENT:
ARBLASTER, LATE CHRISTIAN. [934

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WAR.—ORDER OF THE DAY. DRESS!
RIGHT ABOUT FACE! QUICK MARCH
TO THE

GLOBE HAT WAREHOUSE for a Brilliant Smart HAT, the crowning point of a Gentleman's *personnel.*

BEST VALUE EVER OFFERED.

9s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d., 12s. 6d.

*NEW-STREET, CORNER OF TEMPLE-ST.* [946

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LIVERY BUTTONS.—Order your Livery, Crest, Monograms, Police, Naval, Military, and Railway Buttons from PIGOTT and CO., with their *Fast* Shanks.

Improved TROUSER BUTTONS, made with any Name and Address. St. Paul's-square, Birmingham. Patterns by Post. [779

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GOLD SPECTACLES. — The largest and best assortment of handsome GOLD SPECTACLES and EYE GLASSES set with best Pebbles, at 41, Bull-street.

JAMES GARGORY, Optician.

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ELEGANT PRESENTS.—The largest and best assortment of Foreign NOVELTIES to be found in the Midland Counties.

JAMES GARGORY, 41, Bull-street, Birmingham. [679

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CARPENTERS' TOOLS, in greatest variety, and of best quality, may be had at lower prices than from any other House in the Midland Counties, from

ROUTLEDGE (LATE THOMAS),
23, *BULL-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.*

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BOWATER'S PRIZE ARTIFICIAL TEETH defy all Competition for NATURAL APPEARANCE, MASTICATION, ARTICULATION, and COMFORT. Teeth fixed from 5s. per Tooth, including all charges.

W. BOWATER, Surgeon Dentist, &c., 142, Broad-street, Birmingham.

BOWATER'S TOOTH-ACHE SPECIFIC, in Bottles, 6d. and 1s. each; by Post, 7 or 14 Stamps. [573

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CANNOCK CHASE COAL,
CANAL AND RAILWAY.

THE COMPANY send COAL by Railway in Trucks to all Stations, and load Canal Boats at their extensive Wharves on the Anglesey Branch of the Birmingham Canal, adjoining the Colliery, and also at Hednesford Basin, Cannock.

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| DEEP COAL | 11s. 0d. | per ton. |
| YARD or HOUSEHOLD COAL | 10s. 6d. | ,, |
| SHALLOW (one way) | 8s. 6d. | ,, |
| HARD COAL | 7s. 6d. | ,, |
| ROUGH SLACK | 4s. 6d. | ,, |
| FINE SLACK | 3s. 0d. | ,, |

CANNEL GAS COAL, 11,000 FEET OF GAS PER TON.

Illuminating power of Gas in Standard Candles, 32½ Candles.

For prices by Railway, including rate, apply to

JOHN N. BROWN,
56, *Union-passage, Birmingham.*
London Offices: 455, *New Oxford-street.*

June 1st, 1870. [793

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COMPANION TO THE SICK ROOM.—The QUEEN'S LAVENDER WATER, the most Fragrant, Refreshing, and Lasting of Perfumes. J. PROCTER (late Thonger and Gray), 104, Broad Street, Islington, Birmingham. [27

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GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.
EPPS'S COCOA.
BREAKFAST.

"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills."—*Civil Service Gazette.*

Made simply with boiling water or milk.

Sold only in ¼ lb., ½ lb., and 1 lb. tin-lined packets, labelled— [959

JAMES EPPS & CO., Homœopathic Chemists, London.

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WATKIN'S TOILET CLUB, 6, Union Street.—Hair Cutting and Shampooing, 6d. Particular attention paid to the Hair Cutting, Clean Brushes and Towels. A large Stock of Head-dresses, Plaits, Wigs, Braids, Fronts, etc., to select from. Orders taken are executed on the shortest notice; great care taken in matching the colour. Pomades, Lime Juice, Perfumes, Sponges, Combs, and Brushes in stock at the lowest price. N.B.—A large quantity of Perfume Fountains from 1d. to 1s. [95

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MR. WILLIAM J. WATSON, SURGEON DENTIST,
(Many years Assistant to Mr. ESKELL, of Bennett's-hill.)

Supplies every description of Artificial Teeth and Gums so largely advertised, at about one-third of the usual charges, being the *actual maker.*

SINGLE TEETH FROM 3s. 6d.,
SETS FROM £2 10s., INCLUDING ALL CHARGES.
Only address, [40
16, *NEWHALL-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.*

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THE EAST INDIA TEA COMPANY, 9, Great St. Helen's, Bishopsgate-street, London, appoint Agents in every Town for the sale of their Teas. A good living may be made by this Agency. Apply for Prospectus as above. [853

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EXCHANGE ASSEMBLY ROOMS,
*NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.*

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

COMMENCING MONDAY, DEC. 26TH, 1870.

MATTHEWS BROTHERS' TROUPE OF ORIGINAL CHRISTY MINSTRELS.

Original Lessees of St. James' Hall, Piccadilly, London, for the above Entertainment, and from the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, &c., &c.

FIRST APPEARANCE IN BIRMINGHAM.

BEST MINSTREL TROUPE IN THE WORLD.

The GREAT HARRY and WILLIAM MATTHEWS at every Performance.

Front Seats, 2s. 6d.; Second Seats, 1s.; Back, 6d.

Plan of Front Seats at Messrs. Harrison and Harrison's, Colmore-row. [192

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CURZON HALL.

DECEMBER 24TH AND FUTURE DATES.

THE GRAND EXCELSIOR DIORAMIC CONCERTS.

TWELVE OF THE MOST POPULAR ARTISTES IN THE WORLD, including
MR. JOLLY NASH and MR. and Mrs. GEORGE WARE.

BRASS and STRING BAND.

SIXTY SCENES of GREAT BRITAIN.
The ROYAL EXCELSIOR CHRISTY MINSTRELS.
The ROYAL MINSTRELS of SCOTLAND.
SONGS and SCENES of DEAR OULD IRELAND.
SCENES and SONGS of MERRY ENGLAND.
The PRINCESS LOUISE and the MARQUIS of LORNE.
FIRST GRAND PERFORMANCE, DECEMBER 24TH.

Managers, Messrs. JOLLY NASH and GEO. WARE. [170

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NEXT OF KIN.—1871 Edition.—Now Ready, a Classified and Descriptive INDEX (of 20,000 names guaranteed) to Advertisements for Next of Kin, Chancery Heirs, Legatees, &c., from 1700 to 1871, post free 32 stamps. Address, Mr. CULLMER, 17, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane, London, W.C. [858

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THE
CHURCHMAN'S FAMILY MAGAZINE.
1s. MONTHLY.

A High-Class Magazine for English Churchmen. Conducted by eminent Clergymen and Laymen.

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W. MACKINTOSH, 24, PATERNOSTER-ROW,
And all Booksellers.

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FACE POWDER.—SAUNDER'S FACE POWDER, or, BLOOM OF NINON, beautifies and preserves the Complexion, and contains nothing injurious. Packets 6d. and 1s., free for 8 or 16 stamps. Superfluous Hair easily and effectually removed by SAUNDER'S ORIENTAL DEPILATORY. Packets, 2s.; free for 26 stamps.

J. TOUZEAU SAUNDERS, 143, Oxford Street, W. [158

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SPANISH FLY is the acting ingredient in ALEX. ROSS'S CANTHARIDES OIL, which speedily produces whiskers and thickens hair. 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d.; sent by post for 54, 84, and 144 stamps.—Alex. Ross, 248, High Holborn, London, and all chemists.

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HAIR CURLING FLUID. — 248, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON. — ALEX. ROSS'S CURLING FLUID curls ladies' and gentlemen's hair immediately it is applied. Sold at 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d.; sent post free for 54, 84, and 144 stamps. Had of all chemists. [13

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FOR COUGHS, COLDS, ASTHMA,

BRONCHITIS, and NEURALGIA,

THE GREAT REMEDY of the day is Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE; a few doses will cure all incipient cases. Caution.—The extraordinary medical reports on the efficacy of Chlorodyne renders it of vital importance that the public should obtain the "genuine," which is now sold under the protection of Government authorising a stamp bearing the words "Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne," without which none are genuine. See decision of Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood, the *Times,* July 16, 1864. Sold in bottles, 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d., by all Chemists. Sole Manufacturer, J. T. DAVENPORT, 33, Great Russell-street, London, W.C.

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DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE. Extract from *Medical Times,* January 12, 1866—"Is prescribed by scores of orthodox practitioners. Of course it would not be thus singularly popular did it not supply a want and fill a place."

From Lord Francis Conyngham, Mount Charles, Donegal, December 11, 1868.

"LORD FRANCIS CONYNGHAM, who this time last year bought some of Dr. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne from Mr. Davenport, and has found it a most powerful Medicine, will be glad to have half-a-dozen bottles sent at once to the above address."

SOLE MANUFACTURER, J. T. DAVENPORT,
33, *GREAT RUSSELL-STREET, BLOOMSBURY, LONDON.* [54

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THE MIDLAND COUNTIES REPOSITORY,
*No. 1, CHEAPSIDE, BIRMINGHAM.*

MR. J. M. CLAYWORTH begs to inform Noblemen, Gentlemen, and the Public in general, that he will hold his next STUD SALES on
THURSDAY, January 19th; and on
THURSDAY, February 2nd.

Sales by Auction every Thursday; by Private Treaty, Daily. [35

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BIRMINGHAM CANAL NAVIGATIONS.—The Committee of the Birmingham Canal Company are prepared to RECEIVE OFFERS of LOANS, at Four per cent. per annum, for periods of three, five, or seven years, or to be repayable at six months' notice.

The Committee are also prepared to receive Applications for the issue at par of the Company's Four per Cent. Perpetual Debenture Stock, to be inscribed on the Books of the Company in the names of applicants, free of all expense.

A Commission of ½ (one half) per cent. is allowed to applicants.

Any amount of Stock, not being a fraction of a pound can be subscribed for and transferred.

Applications to be made to Mr. Robert Thomas, Clerk to the Company, at the Navigation Office, Paradise Street, Birmingham. [104

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CARPETS, CURTAINS, CABINET FURNITURE.

GEORGE DIACK, 212 and 213, OXFORD-STREET, W., invites public attention to his Stock of Carpets, comprising all the manufactures for Dining-Rooms, Libraries, Drawing-Rooms, and Chambers; to a unique collection of Silk Fabrics from the most approved Factories of Lyons and Spitalfields.

CABINET FURNITURE OF FIRST - CLASS MAKE.

BEDSTEADS AND BEDDING SUITABLE FOR THE MANSION OR COTTAGE.

212 *and* 213, *OXFORD-STREET, W.* [102

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SEAL SKIN JACKETS at SIX GUINEAS. Positively the Finest samples of Skins ever seen, sacrificed shortly before the Investment of Paris, by a French firm.—J. HARVEY and Co., Lambeth House, Westminster-bridge.

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WIDE VELVETEENS, bright and soft as Silk. Sacrificed at 2s. 6d., usually sold at 4s. 6d. per yard. Patterns sent.

HARVEY & CO.,
*LAMBETH HOUSE, WESTMINSTER BRIDGE.*

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FRENCH MERINOS. — FINEST Quality and Double Width, at 2s. per yard, in every Fashionable Colour and Black. It may be important for Ladies to know "That this is the last time of asking." All weavers in France are soldiers; manufacturing goods there is an affair of the past. Merino is made in no other country, and the price may be doubled during the winter. Help yourselves Ladies, while you may. Patterns sent.

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RICH SILKS, in Dresses, at 25s. 6d., 31s. 6d., 40s., and 45s. Black Gros Grains, Glaces, and Cords, made of Bright Italian Silk, with a warranty for wear, wide width, at 3s. 6½d. per yard. Japanese Silks, richest in quality of silk, and really wears well, at 2s. 6½d. the yard. Also Richest Black Moires, yard wide, at 10s. 9d. per yard. Patterns sent.

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NEW DRESSES and COSTUMES in Reps, Diagonals, and Satin Cloths, Made and Unmade. An immense variety, fresh, and in good taste, at 8s. 9d., 10s. 9d., and 12s. 9d. the full dress. The most approved and durable colours of the season are submitted, intended to give satisfaction.

HARVEY & CO.,
*LAMBETH HOUSE, WESTMINSTER BRIDGE, LONDON.* [139

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WALKER'S CRYSTAL CASE WATCHES are superseding all others.—PRIZE MEDALS, London, 1862; Paris, 1867. Gold from £15 15s.; Silver from £6 6s.—68, Cornhill; 230, Regent-street; and 76, Strand. [842

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A PIANOFORTE FOR ONE SHILLING.

THE MUSICAL ART UNION (Under the sanction and control of Her Majesty's Privy Council). The PRIZES at the SECOND DISTRIBUTION, to be held in JANUARY, will consist of valuable PIANOFORTES, HARMONIUMS, VIOLINS, CONCERTINAS, MUSICAL BOXES, and other Musical Instruments, HANDSOMELY BOUND VOLUMES of MUSICAL WORKS, &c., ranging in value up to FIFTY GUINEAS.

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Agents wanted in unrepresented localities. All letters requiring an answer must contain a stamped envelope.

AGENTS for BIRMINGHAM.—MR. BARBER, New Street; and Miss WOODCOCK, 21, Cannon st [1

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NOTICE.—G. ORAM supplies, on Hire, FURNITURE, BEDDING, GLASS, CHINA, &c. Houses completely Furnished for the week, or any other time. 500 Cane Chairs and Rout Seats for Hire.—Address, 124, Broad-street. Selling off, at a Great Reduction, a Lot of Surplus Stock. BARGAINS.—Second-hand Cottage PIANOFORTES, by Broadwood and others; Garden Seats, 12s. 6d. each, Garden Rollers, large and small Fire-proof safes, Doors for strong rooms, Copying Presses; Garden Chairs, 4s. 6d. each; large and other Office Tables; large Music Boxes, large and small Harmoniums, Office Fittings, Counters, round and oval Loo Tables; Bagatelle and Billiard Tables, and folding Boards; large Oak Bookcase; 1,000 dozen Champagne Bottles, at 6d. doz.; all other kinds of Wine Bottles for sale cheap; 500 Cane Chairs, used once, 2s. each. LOT OF FOREIGN WINES, in Cask, or Bottle, or in Bond, for Sale, at one-half their usual price, all warranted, and taken back if not approved of; Sample Bottles, delivered anywhere, on approval, Port at 1s. 6d., 2s., 2s. 2d., 2s. 6d., 2s. 9d., and 3s. per Bottle. 1847 Port and 1834 Sherry, part of Burdett's Stock, at 3s. 4d., worth quite double. Claret, 1s., Champagne, 2s. No charge for Bottles. All kinds of Wine Bottles Bought and on Sale in any quantities. Sandeman's celebrated 1863 vintage Ports, 36s. dozen, or £60 per Pipe, very choice for laying down.

G. ORAM'S GREAT FURNISHING MART, 124, BROAD-STREET. Send for a List how to Furnish a House for £6, £20, £50, and £100. [576

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THE GREAT CENTRAL STEAM POWER DYEING AND CLEANING ESTABLISHMENT.

Principal Depot: Oriel House, Bull Street, Birmingham.

Works: 121, Great Charles-street.

Branch Office: Darlington-street, Wolverhampton.

JOSEPH HARRIS, Proprietor.

The above are the largest and most complete Dye Works in the Midland Counties. [445

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NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE.—AGUA AMARELLA restores the human hair to its pristine hue, no matter at what age. J. GOSNELL AND CO. have at length, with the aid of one of the most eminent chemists, succeeded in perfecting this wonderful liquid. It is now offered to the public in a more concentrated form, and at a lower price. Sold in bottles at 3s. each, also 5s., 7s. 6d., and 15s. each, including brush. [851

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JOHN GOSNELL AND CO'S CHERRY TOOTH PASTE is greatly superior to any Tooth Powder, gives the Teeth a Pearl-like whiteness, protects the enamel from decay, and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath. Price 1s. 6d. per pot.—Angel Passage, 93, Upper Thames-street, London. [852

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INDIGESTION.—The Medical Profession adopt Morson's Preparation of PEPSINE as the true remedy.—Sold in bottles and boxes from 2s. by all Pharmaceutical Chemists and the Manufacturers.—THOMAS MORSON & SON, 124, Southampton Row, Russell Square, London. [845

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CHRISTIAN'S PATE DE LICHEN, in the form of Lozenges, removes phlegm, and gives relief in most disorders of the voice, throat, and chest. In colds, accompanied by cough, hoarseness, and the peculiar tickling and dryness in the throat usually called huskiness, its beneficial effects are felt almost immediately. If taken on leaving heated rooms, it will often be found a preventive of the above complaints. Being free from any preparation of opium, it may be given to children as well as adults. Boxes, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. Manufactured only at CHRISTIAN'S, New Street, Birmingham. [408

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GLENFIELD STARCH
is the only kind used in
Her Majesty's Laundry.

Those ladies who have not yet used the Glenfield Starch are respectfully solicited to give it a trial, and carefully follow out the directions printed on every package, and they will say, like the Queen's laundress, it is the finest Starch they ever used. [846

Printed for the Proprietors, and Published by GEORGE WILLIAMS, at 102, Fleet-street, London, and 108, New-street, Birmingham.—January 7, 1871.